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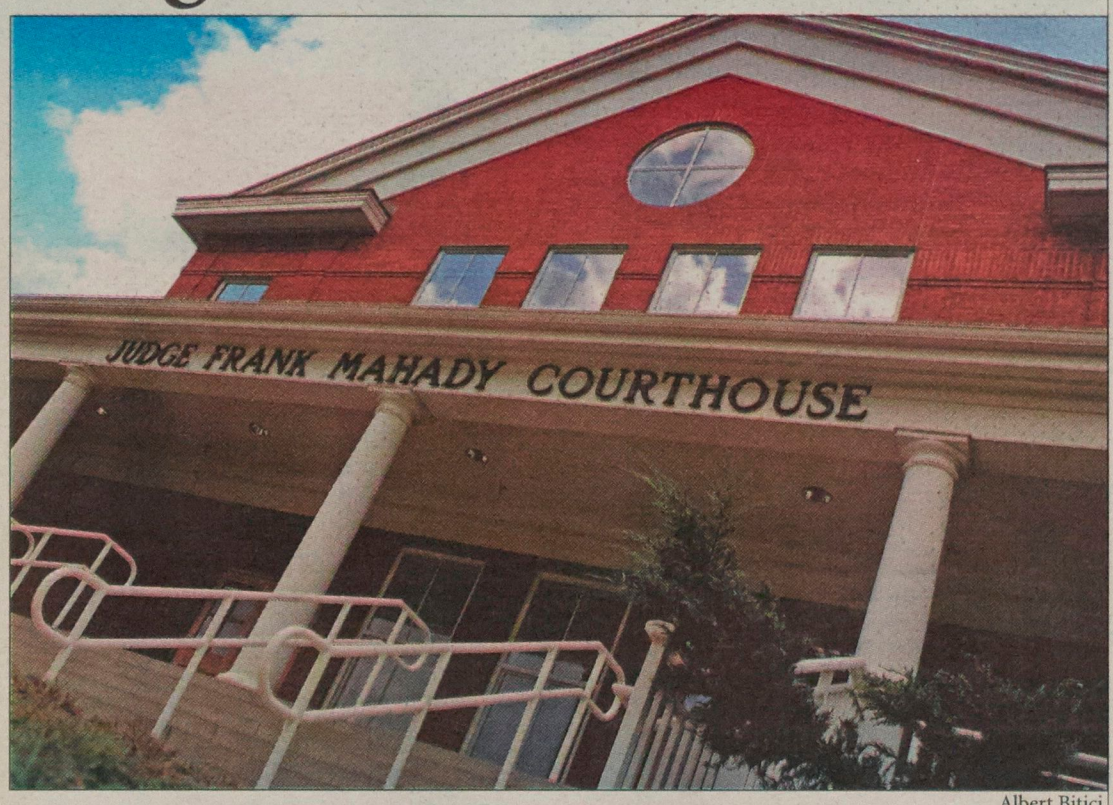
Walker ruling said to be imminent

By Ben Salkowe
News Editor

According to attorneys and Middlebury College officials involved in a lawsuit filed by O'Neil Walker alleging racial discrimination by the College a ruling in the case is imminent. The College suspended Walker last spring after two campus judicial boards found him guilty both of "behavior unbecoming of a Middlebury student" and "disrespect for persons and property," after he was accused of entering another student's room unauthorized.

Walker maintained his innocence through both hearings and said the proceedings against him had been unfairly conducted. Immediately following his suspension, Walker filed suit in Addison County Superior Court against the College alleging that the judicial process had misidentified him in an instance of racial discrimination.



Albert Bitici

Students gathered last May at the Addison County courthouse in support of O'Neil Walker as Walker brought suit against Middlebury College for racial discrimination. A Walker ruling is expected shortly.

Confusion and intrusion

The events that led up to Walker's current lawsuit against the College began long before protesters gathered outside Old Chapel last May, or even before David Hawkins '05, who identified Walker as a suspect, awoke to find a stranger in his room last January.

At approximately 4 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, Nov. 4, 2004, a first-year male student living in Ross Commons awoke to find another male crouched by his bed. The student contacted Public Safety and on Nov. 12, Public Safety Officer David Delphia took a statement from the first-year in which he described the intruder as wearing a dark shirt and khaki pants, having very short hair and walking out of the room in a crouched position. The first-year told Daniel Gaiotti, assistant director of patrol operations, that he had not noticed the race of the intruder, but confirmed his original description that the intruder had short, dark hair that was about an inch long.

Only a week after the first intrusion, a second and more frightening incident was reported at 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 14. This time the victim was a sophomore male in Hadley Hall. According to a summary of the student's statement prepared by Public Safety, "[The student] felt a hand rubbing his penis, which woke him up and startled him. He did not recognize the person, but described his skin as very dark." The victim jumped out of his top bunk bed to confront the intruder, who reportedly ran out of the room. Public Safety officers were called to the scene, but were unable to locate the intruder.

Later the same day, Lisa Bou-

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Alcohol policy crashes party scene

By Derek Schlickeisen
Staff Writer

Middlebury College's response to liquor inspector Michael G. Davidson's re-interpretation of the Vermont law regarding alcohol at open parties was put to the test last weekend with events hosted by Omega Alpha (Tavern) and Kappa Delta Rho (KDR).

In addition to licensing, registering and catering their parties, organizers of the weekend's events had to limit attendance to students whose names were on a guest list and had an invitation in order to comply with Davidson's reclassification of social house events as "private parties."

With only a week to arrange the details, however, organizers found themselves with little time to come up with a system to enforce the guest list.

"Right now it's still a kind of seat-of-our-pants process as we try to find the most effective manner in which to implement the state requirements," said Tavern President Andrew Barriger '06. "Some things we were hoping to use to make the process easier, like wristbands, were very difficult to get coordinated."

According to organizers and guests alike, some students were very frustrated and confused by the new regulations. KDR Vice President and Inter-House Council President Lauren Battaglia '06 said, "Most people were pretty

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Witnesses to hope and healing

Vlad Lodoaba

Gathering on the hill outside Mead Chapel, members of the Middlebury College community remembered the victims of Hurricane Katrina on Friday, Sept. 16. The College's service coincided with a national day of mourning proclaimed by President George W. Bush. College Chaplain Laurie Jordan '79 led the event.

Berman sets forth SGA plans

By Kathryn Flagg
News Editor

NEWS ANALYSIS

Two weeks into his fourth semester at Middlebury College, President of the Student Government Association Eli Berman '07.5 is already campaigning for the "positive change" he advocated in his platform last spring. As Berman cites high hopes for the year ahead, his enthusiasm in pursuing platform goals and new agendas is tempered by the need for accountability and action within the SGA.

"Accountability is key," Berman told his cabinet in meetings early this September, stressing the responsibility of the SGA to follow through on initiatives introduced throughout the course of the year.

Berman's cabinet met today for its first official meeting — the first step in what Berman recognized as a managerial-intensive period for the SGA. "Our first priority," he said," is totally organizational." While Berman's cabinet has been brainstorming objectives for the past several months — a move unusual for an organization unaccustomed to summer planning, says Berman — the main body of the SGA has not yet been elected. In two weeks the SGA will launch its annual elections campaign, soliciting candidates for the Senate and several SGA-sponsored committees.

Election reform is not on the agenda, says Berman, and procedures will largely follow patterns dictated by previous administrations. Berman did stress the SGA's renewed commitment to publicity and communications, saying that Press Secretary Adam Irish '08.5 will "blitz the campus" in the weeks leading up to elections. "The key is that we want to make it as easy as possible to get involved," Berman said.

This dedication to communication lies at the heart of what Berman calls "broad themes" for the year ahead. In addition to highlighting specific items on his agenda — such as the Collegiate Readership program, which brings national newspapers to College dining halls, and the Napster music program — Berman stressed the SGA's commitment to community outreach, accessible mass transportation for students and communication between the SGA and the student body. He hopes to improve "town-gown relations" by facilitating interaction between the College

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY ANNIE ONISHI

College hosts climate crisis symposium

The 2005 Nicholas R. Clifford Symposium Review, titled, "Renewal: Perspectives and Possibilities in an Age of Climate Crisis," is being held at Middlebury College this weekend. This year's symposium marks the 40th anniversary of the College's Environmental Studies program.The symposium is an interdisciplinary approach to evaluate the Earth's climate, to examine the human impact on the environment, and to seek solutions to the climatological problems facing people today. It will include the dedication ceremony of the College's new wind turbine, a dance performance called "The Birdhouse Project," lectures and panel discussions.

Bill McKibben, scholar in residence in environmental studies and the author of "The End of Nature," will give the keynote lecture "How Big is Too Big? Global Warming and Moral Choices" to open the symposium this evening at 7:30 p.m. in Mead Memorial Chapel.

In addition to McKibben, the symposium will feature experts from many fields including paleoclimatologist and marine geologist Bill Ruddiman, regional wildlife biologist Craig Fleener and Meg Boyle, the executive director of The Climate Campaign. Other notable participants include Enele Sopoaga, ambassador to the United Nations from Tuvalu and the director-general of the Naskapie Nation of Kawawachikamach, John Mameamskum.

More information and a schedule of events are available on the Middlebury College Web site under "Administration" and "Environmental Affairs."

Grad clinches Nuquist Award for VT research

Middlebury graduate Lauren Throop '04 was awarded the Nuquist Award on May 5 for her 2003-2004 senior thesis, "A Multi-Dimensional Analysis of Wind Energy Potential at Middlebury College's Worth Mountain." Director of Education Technology, Library & Information Sheldon Sax accepted the award on Throop's behalf.

The Nuquist Award is sponsored by the Center for Research on Vermont, out of the University of Vermont. It is awarded every year to an undergraduate culminating study in memory of UVM Political Science Professor Andrew E. Nuquist. Judgment for the award is based on analysis, creativity, presentation quality and the thoroughness and legitimacy of the research.

Throop's project was nominated for the award by Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of PhysicsRichard Wolfson. The project combined a physics-based analysis of the wind on Worth Mountain with a research project about the impact of wind turbines on local bird and bat populations.

Since winning the Nuquist Award, Throop has continued her career in the field of Environmental Studies and recently completed a five-month avian research project in the Galapagos Islands with UCLA.

Midd deemed "college with a conscience"

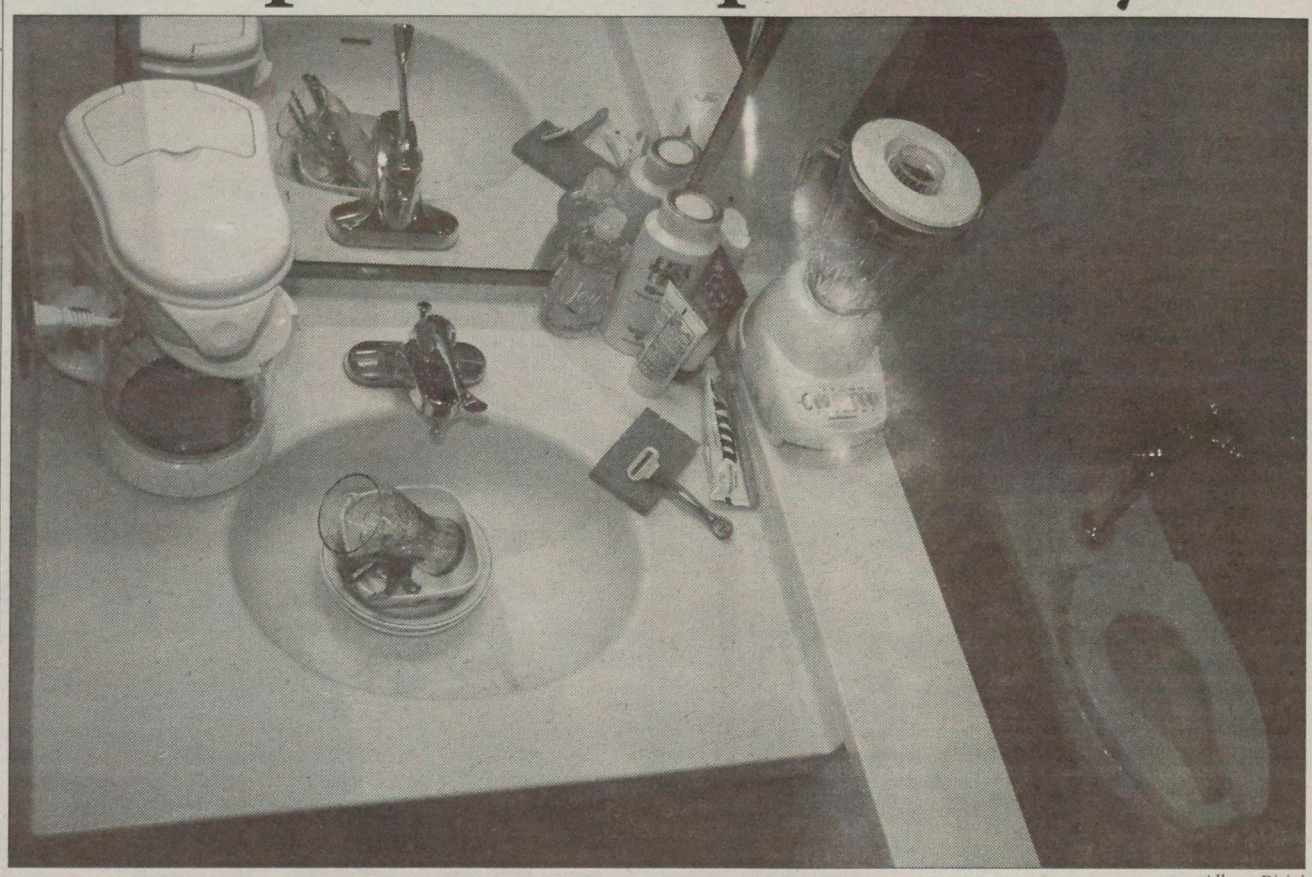
Middlebury College was one of 81 American undergraduate institutions to be recognized in the new book, "Colleges with a Conscience: 81 Great Schools with Outstanding Community Involvement." The book was published by Random House and Princeton Review in June, and it features schools that are notably accomplished in offering social service and service-learning programs to their students.

"Colleges with a Conscience" features detailed profiles about each included school. The profiles offer advice for prospective students about the specific college, including how to obtain financial aid for community service, how to get involved in service at the school and specific advice on the application process.

More than half of Middlebury students are involved in service in the community. Projects and initiatives last year varied widely from helping out at the Vermont Special Olympics, to participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and assisting local schools in the wider Middlebury community.

Middlebury's inclusion in "Colleges with a Conscience" comes amid other public recognition from Princeton Review and "US News & World Report."

Floor plans ruin plans for year



Albert Bitici

After learning that her Atwater senior suite would not include a kitchen, Megan Scott '06 makes the most of her sink space.

By Jason Siegel
News Editor

On Aug. 26, just four days before he was slated to come to campus, Tim Foley '06 and his suitemates received an e-mail from their dean with an unusual message: They had been moved from their suite with a kitchenette to one without, due to errors in the floor plan during Room Draw.

The suites equipped with kitchenettes are indistinguishable from those with just a common room on the floor plans. These floor plans were the ones used to preview rooms both before Room Draw and during the Draw itself. Many of the seniors drawing into these dorms were thus mistakenly under the impression that their suites would have a kitchenette. When they found out they were wrong, they contacted Dean of Atwater Commons Scott Barnicle to find out why they had no kitchen.

In an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, Barnicle said he first found out that there had been confusion about kitchens on the night of Room Draw, and had been looking at solutions from the spring onward. "I tried to be as equitable as possible," said Barnicle.

Unfortunately, that meant that some people would have to be switched. "Being seniors with [increasingly] crazy schedules, a kitchen was key in our decision," explained Foley.

However, Barnicle said he based his decision entirely on the order that the suites had been selected. Had the kitchens been clearly marked on the floor plans, Foley and company would not have been able to get a kitchenette anyway, and quite possibly might not have been able to get into the Atwater suites at all. In all, only two sets of suites out of the twenty or so in the Atwater Halls were switched.

Barnicle has guaranteed that such an error will not happen again. Starting this year, the Atwater Commons Residential Assistants will write directly on the floor plans which suites lack kitchens, so that it will be impossible for any student to claim ignorance again.

"I feel terrible about what happened," Barnicle said.

He also added that during the planning process, he had originally questioned the value of adding kitchenettes in senior suites, wondering if it would prevent intermingling of the classes in the dining halls and if it would drive up expectations for all senior suites to have kitchens in the future.

If this incident is any indication, his worries were well founded.

Discussing diversity

Albert Bitici

New Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett, far right, receives an official welcome at PALANA House on Friday, Sept. 16. He and other members of the Admissions Office as well as the administration took advantage of the gathering to chat about ways to improve diversity at the College. About 25 students, faculty and staff members attended the reception.

Invite-only events inspire student creativity

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understanding of the fact that we had no choice regarding the new party policy. However, we did have people who were rather upset by the fact that they had come down to KDR and were turned away."

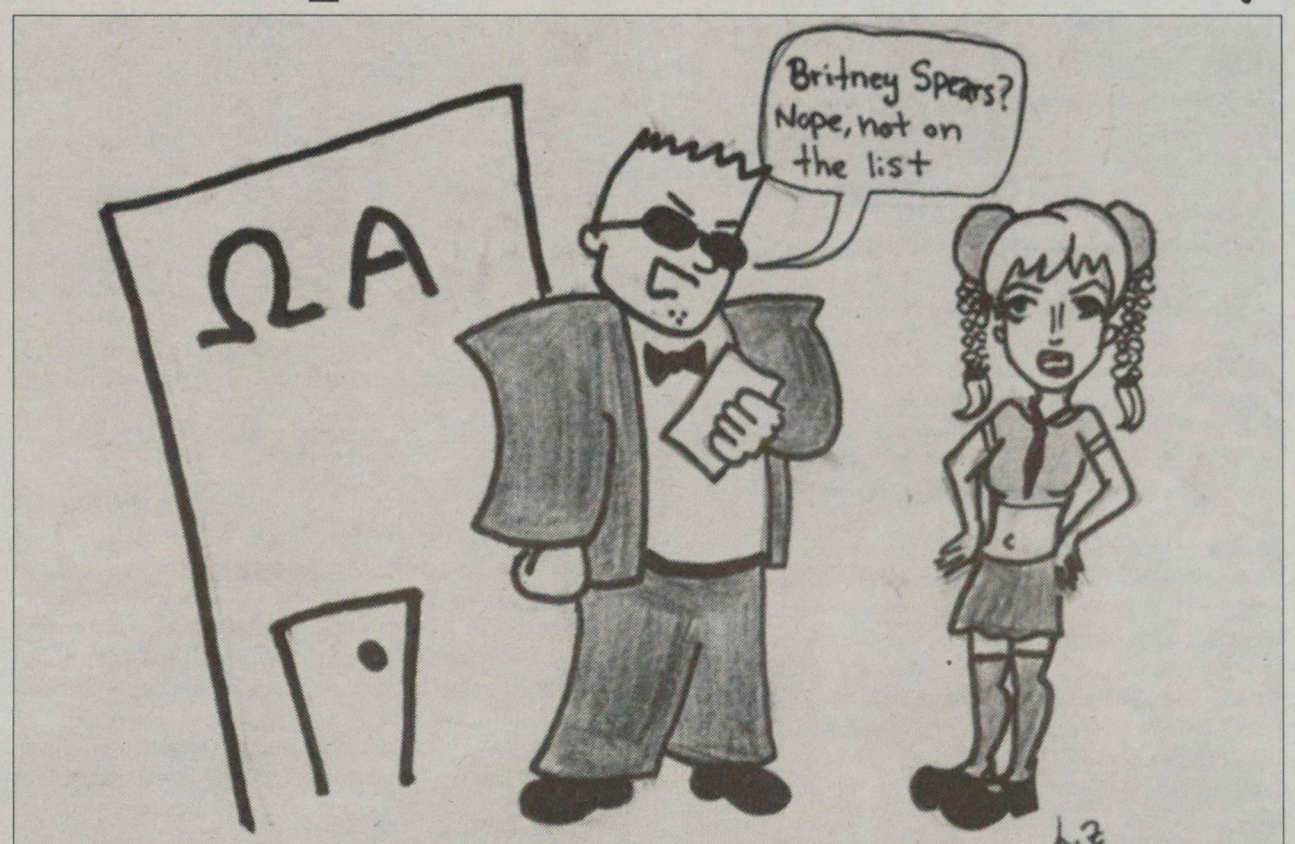
But not all of those who were turned away stayed away. Guests at the Tavern's "Dirty Professor/Naughty Schoolgirl" party reported hectic scenes of large crowds waiting to get in. Neil D'Astolfo '07.5 saw that "within 20 minutes at least half of the people I came with who weren't on the guest list had gotten in. One said that they had just let him in at some point."

Mike Murali '09 witnessed several others who were more creative. "A number of people who couldn't get in started climbing through a large window," he said. D'Astolfo added that others who were denied at the front door "found a side entrance that was open with no one watching it."

While Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah said that officers do check on registered parties, she confirmed that no incidents involving campus security resulted from the stricter regulations. Barriger and others reported that the guest list rule caused some problems for the hosts, including damage to the premises. "There were some people who not only made things difficult as we tried to check people on the list in, but were downright disrespectful of us," he said. "They broke into the house through any open window they could find, including bedrooms."

Said Student Government Association President Eli Berman '07.5, "I can't imagine what the liquor inspector would have done if he had been there. There is no way the confusion of this weekend will be able to continue throughout the year."

Following the weekend's confusion, many students expressed their disapproval of requiring invitations to social house parties. "Open parties where students can, regardless of year, quaff a few beers but spend most of the time dancing are far safer," said Bonnie Hemphill '08. "Which is worse: turning a blind eye to a 19-year-old having a beer or two, or encouraging him to a situation where's he'll suck down 12 shots alone in Battell or drive home drunk from the Farm?" D'Astolfo, a Battell Junior Counselor, echoed this concern. "There's no reason to make the social scene exclusive. That just promotes smaller gatherings in freshman dorms, which is where the bulk of health center visits initiate."



Lisa Zaval

Berman, in his role as liaison to liquor inspector Davidson, said that student leaders are still in the process of figuring out how to address the problem of bringing the College into compliance with Vermont's liquor laws while maintaining a social atmosphere. "The main problem is that we want to bring ourselves into compliance, but these are antiquated laws and very few people know exactly what they mean. Meanwhile, we're still having parties."

Health center revises hours

By Jason Siegel
News Editor

This fall, in an effort to get students accommodated to the availability of medical appointments outside Middlebury College, the Parton Health Center has shifted its schedule around to fit what Associate Director of the Parton Health Center Terry Jenny calls a "business model."

The main change has been the fact that students may schedule an appointment with a nurse only until 6 p.m., as opposed to the 9 p.m. cutoff in the past. The number of appointments available will not change, and Jenny stressed repeatedly that access to serious and emergent medical care has not changed.

In previous years there had often been two nurses working at a given time in the evenings and on the weekends. However, now there will be only one nurse on duty after 6 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays.

Jenny called the scheduling of the new business hours, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., an "educational tool." After college, students will be unable to schedule appointments late in the day, and the Health Center wishes to reflect that.

Likewise, after college, people are not denied access to emergency services when needed, and the Health Center will continue to offer these services or, when necessary, arrange for transportation to Porter Hospital.

"The impact is not that great," Jenny said. She reminded students that the number of appointments had not changed, but merely the hours of availability.

Students wishing to see a nurse practitioner or a doctor will be able to see them at the same times as always, during the business hours of the Health Center.

A smaller change deals with the security of Centeno House. Now that there is only one nurse on duty from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m., the inside door, which separates the foyer from the waiting room, will be locked during those hours. Jenny is asking students not to be discouraged by that locked door, and to use the telephone in the foyer to call the Health Center to get admission. The outside door will remain unlocked at all times.

Jenny also recommended that students call before going to the Health Center if they wish to make an appointment.

"If [a] need could wait until business hours," said Jenny, "that's what we would recommend."

Students who wish to see a nurse might otherwise find that they have gone to Centeno House for nothing, since all the appointments for that time might be taken.

In the past the Parton Health Center was an appointment-based operation, but provided many services for those who suddenly become hurt or sick as well. These aspects, said Jenny, will remain true this year.

This March, Middlebury College was one of only three schools named in a *New York Times* article on the seemingly sudden paucity of 24-hour college infirmaries for actually having such a facility.

Therefore, Jenny said, students should feel welcome to call the Health Center at any time for any reason.

Brainerd gains new leader

Lindholm "pinch-hits" as acting faculty head

By Zach Hecht-Leavitt
Staff Writer

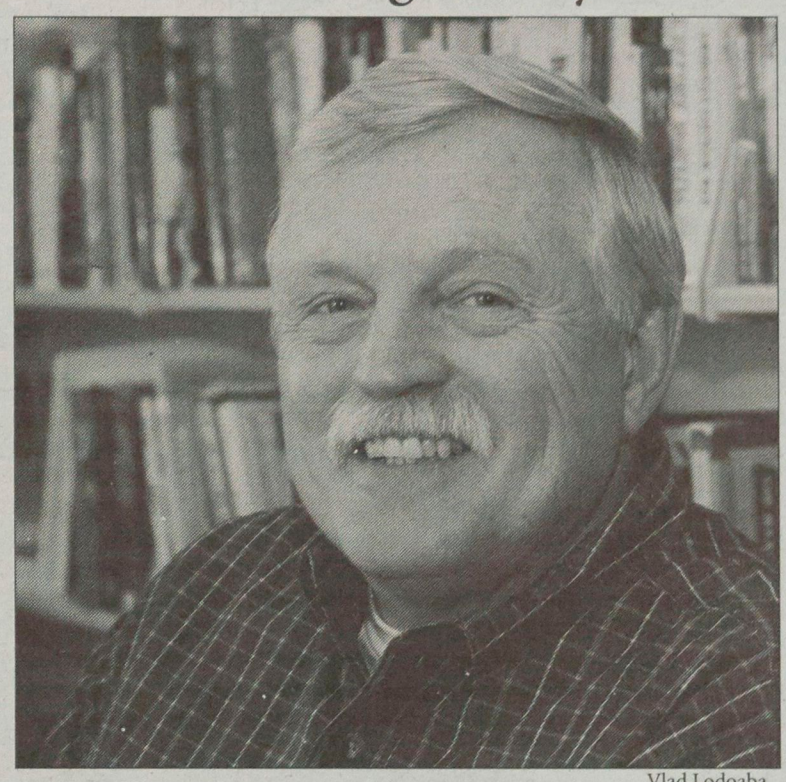
Ask Dean of Advising and Assistant Professor of American Literature Karl Lindholm to impersonate Bob Dylan, and chances are he'll comply. The "entertaining," "down to earth," and "approachable" new acting faculty head of Brainerd Commons is equally at home advising students in his office, engaging first-years with his love of New England in his seminar "The Road Less Traveled" or amusing students with his slightly irreverent sense of humor over a BuRP dinner.

"He's very in tune with the students and tries to build a relationship with every one of them," sais Pascal Losambe '07.

Lindholm has substituted as Acting Faculty Head before in Ross and Brainerd, and served a seven-year term with his wife, Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature Brett Millier, in Atwater. Dean of the College Tim Spears will advise President Liebowitz on a more permanent Faculty Head for Brainerd sometime this year after soliciting student feedback, talking to the Brainerd Commons Council and consulting a list of available appointees. The ultimate decision rests with the President.

Lindholm sees his responsibilities as organizing Brainerd's residential life, delivering student services and, most importantly, setting a warm, comfortable tone for the Brainerd Commons community. "Other universities have a very specialized classroom experience separate from residential and social life. My job as Faculty Head is to maintain a sense of an integrated community in the commons," he said.

To that end, Lindholm wants to continue the popular BuRP dinners which, according to Kris Wilson '08, "represent one of the best embodiments of what the commons system is trying to do." He also wants to work with the Commons Council to schedule a rich program of events and expand aspects of his academic classes to include the entire commons. For example, in years past he has had filmmaker Jay Craven as well as performers and lecturers give presentations as commons events. This has allowed him to tap into the commons budget and reach the entire student body as opposed to just one of his classes.



Vlad Lodoaba

Dean of Advising and Assistant Professor of American Literature Karl Lindholm steps in as interim Faculty Head for Brainerd Commons.

True to his caring, supportive attitude, Lindholm volunteered for the temporary position. He finds his multiple roles as dean of advising, assistant professor and faculty head give him a unique view on all aspects of student life. "The fact that I'm a member of the American Literature and Civilization faculty and student affairs team represents in some way the hybridization and community we're hoping to create in the commons system," he said.

Lindholm replaces Paul and Jennifer Nelson, the previous Faculty Heads, whose seven-year term ended last year. Highlights of the Nelsons' tenure include the creation of the Rising Stars free classical concert series, including a particularly memorable recital last February by Finnish pianist Olli Mustonen, distributing free tickets to arts performances for commons residents and greatly increasing the attendance at BuRP dinners.

College, Walker await VT court's decision

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dah, associate dean of Student Affairs and director of Public Safety, met with the victim. The reported physical description was a male with "dark skin" and "African-American features," who was roughly six feet tall and 180-190 lbs. The victim reported that the intruder had been wearing a sweatshirt with the hood over his head, and described the intruder's hair visible from under the hood as "nappy."

That evening Boudah sent an all-campus community alert to all students and commons officials. While the alert did not highlight the incident as a sexual assault — it only mentioned "touching" — it did include the victim's description of the intruder's hair. A number of community members responded to Public Safety complaining about the racial undertones of the description, and the alert was promptly revised. The first racial tensions of the case had surfaced.

After the crime alert was issued, yet another student came forward. On Nov. 15, a first-year male living in Allen Hall approached Melody Perkins, assistant director of administration for Public Safety, with what he felt might be relevant information. The student reported that between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. on Nov. 13, the night before the Hadley incident, a black male had stuck his head in the first-year's room. When asked if he needed help, the intruder left. The first-year reported that the male was just less than six feet tall, college-age with short hair and wearing a sweatshirt.

The following weekend Ross was placed under 24-hour lockdown with the exception of the dining hall, which was kept open strictly for dining hall hours from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. The vague language of the crime alerts and the annoyance of a lockdown made the intrusions a campus-wide joke with many students referring to "the Ross Toucher" as a case of administrative overreaction to intoxicated students mistaking rooms.

"I think they were just both drunk," said Caryn LoCastro '07 last November in reference to the Nov.14 crime alert and another unrelated alert that had been released earlier. "Drunk guys go into the wrong rooms all the time, sometimes they pee in other people's rooms because they think it's a bathroom."

Hesitant to disclose more information on the nature of the intrusions, and with investigations underway, Boudah cautioned students that the situation seemed more serious. "This type of situation feels a little different," Boudah, told *The Middlebury Campus* just after the fourth incident. "Maybe people go to a wrong room, but this has a different feeling. People don't appear to be intoxicated — they know they're going in the wrong room."

While Public Safety says it investigates all cases independently, similarities in the three Ross intrusions were surfacing. Two additional incidents of room intrusion had occurred on campus in the semester, but the incidents were of males intruding in female rooms, had varying suspect descriptions and according to Public Safety, they were of a different nature than the Ross intrusions. To this day those incidents remain unsolved. The three Ross intrusions, however, were showing patterns. In the absence of clear suspects and in the face of repeated room intrusions, Ross Commons was placed under a 24-hour lockdown.

Then, in January, a fourth intrusion occurred. This time the victim would ultimately name a suspect.

On Jan. 30, Hawkins reported waking up at 6 a.m. to find a black male lying next to his bed in LaForce Hall. According to a timeline prepared by Boudah and Associate Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag, "[Hawkins] jumped to the floor and turned on the light, confronting the intruder. The male said he was Kevin Jones or Johnson. When [Hawkins] took out his cell phone to call Public Safety to confirm the male's identity, the male became angry, grabbed the phone and threw it against the wall."

Again, Boudah released a community crime alert that afternoon. This time the intruder was described as a black male, with a light complexion, 5'10" to 5'11" tall and with short dark hair one to two inches long.

The following day Hawkins spoke with Boudah about his interactions with the intruder. Hawkins told Boudah he had identified several possible suspects in the College "New Faces" book. Public Safety Officer Edward Dolback checked on the names given by Hawkins, but one was abroad and the other two Boudah later determined were not enrolled that semester.

Meanwhile, a final pair of intrusions occurred.

This time two intrusions were reported on the same evening on the same hall. At 1 a.m., and later between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m., two male first-year students on the same floor in Hadley Hall were victims of two separate intrusions. In the first incident the student reported being awakened by the closing of a door, and 20 minutes later seeing a male step in his room, "approximately 5'10" to 5'11" tall, black, lanky [and] wearing a knit hat with ear flaps under the chin ties," according to the student's report. The student yelled at the intruder, who left.

Just after that intrusion, the other male first-year involved also awoke to the sound of his door closing, and after getting up to look outside in the hall, reported seeing a male running down the hall in a winter coat and wearing a winter hat with earflaps.

A suspect is identified

Eight days after Hawkins' intrusion, on Feb. 11, Walker became a suspect in the investigation.

It was on that evening that Hawkins encountered Walker at Middlebury Discount Beverage and first claimed to recognize Walker as his intruder. Hawkins confronted him and asked who he was and whether he had been in his room. Walker identified himself to Hawkins but said he had had not been on campus during the intrusion.

Hawkins e-mailed Boudah that night to say he was "almost positive" Walker was the intruder. Several days later Hawkins told Boudah he was "95 percent sure" and requested a no contact order.

Walker, however, did not appear to fit any model of a repeated intruder. A soft-spoken student who was in the College Orchestra and on the cheerleading squad, he was the first in his family to go to college. He was awarded a Posse scholarship to attend Middlebury and planned to attend law school after graduation.

Boudah went on to interview Walker multiple times. According to the report prepared by Boudah and Guttentag, Walker told her he had been with friends in town the night before Hawkins' room was intruded upon. He said he returned to his room in Hadley alone at 3 a.m. and awoke early the next morning for breakfast before taking a bus to New York City. "[Boudah] questioned this, as there are no buses departing from Middlebury on Sunday afternoon for New York City. Upon reviewing his bus receipt, it was confirmed that he had traveled on the bus on Monday, Jan. 31," the report said.

It was in this second interview that Boudah "confronted [Walker] with her suspicions that he [had] been entering student rooms without authorization, and he denied these assertions."

Judicial process on trial

If the confusing barrage of crime alerts related to the intrusions had frustrated students trying to make sense of the situation, the secrecy and confidentiality of the judicial process by which Walker was judged before two separate boards of administrators, faculty and peers infuriated those trying to understand what was happening.

Walker was brought first before the Community Judicial Board (CJB) — an eight-member board consisting of the Dean of Student Affairs, one staff member, two faculty members and four students. The CJB unanimously found Walker guilty of "behavior unbecoming of a Middlebury student" and "disrespect for persons and property." His penalty was suspension through spring 2006 with the possibility for Walker's readmission in fall 2006, provided that he pursues therapy. Walker appealed the decision to the Judicial Appeals Board (JAB), which granted the appeal solely on the basis of a procedural error in the first hearing. The inclusion of access card records as evidence in the first hearing, when those records should have been destroyed after 60 days in accordance with College privacy policies, was deemed grounds for appeal.

The JAB upheld the CJB's decision, but reduced the penalty to allow Walker readmission in the spring of 2006.

To this day the deliberations of the judicial boards are largely unknown. What is known is that Hawkins was the only victim of an intrusion to identify Walker as the intruder. None of the other victims were able to say that Walker had been in their rooms. "The delayed identification, and the mistaken identification of other African Americans, raises a serious doubt regarding the reliability of his identification, especially given established principles of own-race bias in eyewitness identification," Walker said in a statement following his suspension.

Access card records introduced in the hearings supported both Walker's alibi and the intrusions for which he was blamed for. Any additional information or testimony that found Walker guilty before the judicial boards was barred from public access by Walker's request for a confidential hearing at the start of the proceedings.

I realize that I attend school with students who have had limited encounters, if any at all, with blacks before coming to Middlebury College, Walker wrote in an e-mail that spread to students across campus. However, this is a liberal arts college with many highly educated students who are aware of differences and are capable of articulating distinguishing features of a person (regardless of race) that they encounter.

With no further options for appeal within the College judicial system, Walker took the next step. Represented by two Middlebury attorneys, a friend's father, Robert Weltchek, and eventually the civil rights lawyer William Murphy, Jr., Walker filed suit against the College in the Vermont Superior Court of Addison County.

National media turns an eye

The night before Walker first appeared in court to press charges of racial discrimination against the College, an e-mail including a statement by Walker was rapidly forwarded to every corner of the campus, sometimes under the subject line: "Ross Toucher Court Case Today".

The e-mail and word of mouth brought hundreds of students to the courthouse on May 10 for the case's first hearing. If racial tensions had been building throughout the year, they were at a boiling point that afternoon. About 75 students were allowed into the courthouse, and more than a hundred more stood outside. Following the hearing many of those students returned to campus and staged a protest outside Old Chapel.

President Ronald D. Liebowitz sent an e-mail to all students the following morning asking for an all campus meeting. "A number of issues have arisen on campus in recent weeks that have created concern among students about the campus climate with regard to diversity," Liebowitz wrote. "Because I feel that it is important for us to have an opportunity to share these concerns before people leave for the summer, I would like to hold an open meeting this afternoon, at 5 [p.m.] in McCullough."

For several hours that evening Liebowitz fielded complaints, criticisms and questions from a frustrated body of students seeking explanations. Campus issues of race and discrimination had burst into discussion — students sometimes arguing with each other in addition to with the President. Citing the President's limited role in judicial board proceedings, Liebowitz said he had no involvement with the decisions and would not overturn them. Citing confidentiality restrictions and a pending lawsuit, Liebowitz said he was unable to answer questions about the Walker case proceedings.

Over the course of the summer, the national media took up the story. *The Village Voice* ran a May 31 story under the headline: "Busted for Blackness at Middlebury: How a Bronx senior with a sterling record got kicked out of a tony Vermont college." *National Public Radio* ran a segment on the story July 19. Online petitions and countless blog entries have spread through cyberspace assailing the College's handling of the situation.

Speaking of the College's judicial boards, Murphy, the civil rights lawyer representing Walker told *The Village Voice*, "It was a kangaroo court. No lawyers were allowed in, and the burden of proof was set very low."

But College administrators have stood by their judicial process. "If I had believed that Mr. Walker's race was prejudicially or inappropriately considered in the process of the underlying investigation, or the charge process, I would not have supported the pursuit of discipline as I did," wrote Marichal Gentry, associate dean of the College, in an affidavit to the court. Gentry is also black.

In an interview this week, Weltchek cautioned that the media reports of the case had in some cases lost focus on the actual issues at hand. "We were in court for two full days and no reporters were present," he told *The Campus*. "No one [was] in the courtroom to report the facts as they saw them."

For now the emotions and frustrations will have little impact on the future for Walker or the College, as both await a ruling that could come from the court any day now.

Walker's lawyers would not say whether or not they intended to appeal a ruling if it sustained the College's judicial actions.

inside the O'Neil Walker case

Nov. 6, 13 and 14; Jan. 30; Feb. 7
In five separate incidents of dorm intrusion, six students report awaking to find a male stranger in their room. Incidents are investigated by the Department of Public Safety. Ross Commons is placed under 24-hour lockdown.

Feb. 11
David Hawkins '05 encounters O'Neil Walker in Middlebury Discount Beverage and claims to be "almost positive" that Walker was the individual who entered his room four days earlier. Dean Boudah confronts Walker with suspicions a week later.

Spring 2005
Community Judicial Board and Judicial Appeals Board consider three charges against Walker including "behavior unbecoming of a Middlebury student." Both boards find Walker guilty of two charges and suspend him for a semester.

May 10
Students crowd Addison County Superior Court as Walker brings suit against Middlebury College for racial discrimination. Following initial hearings students stage protests outside Old Chapel. President Liebowitz convenes a town hall meetings.

SGA strives for accountability

and community, expand Addison County Transit Resources service to the College and to promote the pedestrian campus.

Berman's proposed communication reforms are perhaps most innovative — and have the most potential, in the long run, for lasting change. This change is dependent upon the success of Berman's plans, however, and communication between the SGA and student body has traditionally been lacking. Berman proposes Sunday night gatherings in the SGA office for all interested students, and plans to instate weekly open lunches with administrative officials that he hopes will facilitate dialogue. Online surveys, used in the past, will be used sparingly.

"The way the campus feels is extremely important to me," said Berman. "Surveys are definitely useful, but hopefully we'll have so many other venues for communicating with the student body."

Berman predicts a more specific agenda will follow today's cabinet meeting. "These people are not just another student government," he said of those individuals serving in the cabinet, stressing the enthusiasm and passion of his cabinet members. At time of press, Berman indicated that the response to Hurricane Katrina, the College's affiliation with the Monterey Institution of International Studies and social life on campus are current priorities.

The liquor inspector's reinterpreted enforcement of the alcohol policy — the cause of much complaint and consternation on campus — is at the top of Berman's agenda. "The key is to make sure that we're in compliance with the law," said Berman, "and the problem is that we don't know how to do that now," but assured, "we're going to find a way to protect the social life on campus," he continued.

This promise is but one of many Berman has committed himself to fulfilling in the coming year. In addition to newly recognized initiatives, Berman's two-week campaign in April focused on several goals for the new administration. His platform rallied support for a universal wireless Internet network on campus, extended laundry facilities, improved and expanded activity and social spaces, an endowed fund for environmental grants and a heightened profile for the College's organic garden.

This suite of possibilities — ranging from enhanced communication to protected social life, from administrative transparency to solidified town-gown relationships — will prove substantial if Berman's administration is successful in instituting change. Berman — now at the "most busy [he has] ever been in [his] life" — remains optimistic. "I am confident that we're going to make a difference t his year," he said.

Berman clinched the presidency in last April's election, defeating candidates Dan Saper '06 and Elizabeth Schaumberg '06. Then-SGA Director of Membership Alex Meditz '05 confirmed that 1,559 students voted in the spring's presidential election, but a decision made by the SGA and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson restricted the release of any further voting statistics. Berman bears the distinction of being the youngest SGA president in recent history — a distinction that could, arguably, boost greater accountability and stability within the organization.

Vlad Lodoaba

SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 fine-tuned his agenda today in a meeting with his new cabinet.

Berman's 2005-2006 cabinet

Eli Berman '07.5
— President of the SGA

JS Woodward '06
— Student Co-Chair of Communiy Council

Marcus Hughes '06
— Chief of Staff

Adam Irish '08.5
— Press Secretary

Frances Mary Kammeraad '08
— Director of Academic Affairs

Tafadwa Dube '08
— Director of Instituional Affairs

Andrew Herzik '07
— Director of Social Affairs

Jon Warnow '06
— Director of Environmental Affairs

Daniel Inadomi '07
— Director of Membership

Lindsay Russell '06
— Director of Student Organizations

Lauren Curatolo '06
— Director of Campus Diversity

Eric Hoest '07.5 and Isabel Yordan '07
— Co-Directors of Alumni Relations

Alison Thaung '06
— Finance Chair

public safety log

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005 TO SETPTEMBER 19, 2005

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
9/14/05	11:07 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Fletcher	Referred to Commons Dean
9/16/05	11:48 p.m.	Intoxicated Person	Health Center	Adirondack Circle	Referred to Commons Dean
9/16/05	8:38 p.m.	Vandalism	Door	Forest	No Suspects
9/16/05	Unknown	Theft	Tables	McCullough Student Center	Open
9/16/05	1:05 a.m.	Driving Offense	DUI	R Lot	Referred to Vermont State Police
9/16/05	12:57 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	The Mill	Referred to Commons Dean
9/17/05	7:00 p.m.	Theft	Bike	Milliken	No Suspects
9/17/05	4:50 p.m.	Vandalism	Television	Ridgeline Road	No Suspects
9/17/05	1:35 a.m,	Intoxicated Person	N/A	Battell	Porter
9/17/05	12:10 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Student	McCullough Student Center	Referred to Commons Dean
9/17/05	12:53 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Student	Battell	Porter
9/17/05	12:11 a.m.	Intoxicated Person	Student	Brackett (Tavern) (OA)	Porter
9/18/05	1:14 a.m.	Disturbance	Town Complaint	KDR	Referrd to Dean of Student Affairs
9/18/05	6:30 p.m.	Theft	Windshield Wipers	Q Lot	No Suspects
9/19/05	7:10 a.m.	Vandalism	Door	Nelson Arena	No Suspects

The Department of Public Safety reported 18 incidents of alcohol offenses this week. Offenses occurred in Pearsons, Painter, The Mill, McCullough Student Center, Coffrin, Robert A. Jones '59 House and Lang. All incidents were referred to Commons Deans.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY THOMAS C. DRESCHER

Project battles weed legislation

The Marijuana Policy Project Foundation (MPP) recently launched a fundraising campaign targeted at fraternities and sororities in an effort to battle what many could be considered to be excessively harsh weed legislation — legislation which, asserts the MPP, is especially damaging to college-age Americans.

"Students suffer needlessly in the name of America's futile, failed war on marijuana," said Rob Kampia, executive director of MPP in Washington, D.C. "Under federal law, conviction for mere possession of a joint can cost a student his or her financial aid, damaging careers and futures for no good reason. It's time to stop this madness, and we're asking fraternities and sororities, whose members are directly affected, to join the fight."

FBI statistics reveal that over 330,000 Americans aged 18 to 22 were arrested on drug charges in 2003; that nearly half of all drug arrests involve marijuana; and that 88 percent of marijuana arrests are for simple possession, not sale or cultivation.

—U-wire

Playboy releases college sex survey

Playboy Magazine recently released the results of an "unscientific sex survey of 101 college coeds" in an apparent effort to enlighten college-age males on the intricacies of the female libido. The survey covers a rage of sex-related topics, from hooking up to bedroom tricks and the truth about cheating.

Thirty one percent of those polled said they had made a sex tape, while a whopping 98 percent of females asserted that they would watch porn with a guy if he asked. Predictably, 57 percent of respondents named Angelina Jolie as the female celebrity they would most like to have sex with; Brad Pitt topped the list of male celebrities with 54 percent. Seventy percent also admitted to having a one night stand.

Complete survey results can be found in Playboy's October issue.

—U-wire

FBI announces formation of Higher Ed Board

Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Robert S. Muller, III, announced last week the formation of a National Security Higher Education Board in an effort to strengthen relations between higher education institutions and the FBI. The Board, which will serve as an advisory body to the FBI, is comprised of presidents and chancellors from 15 colleges and universities, including Pennsylvania State University (PSU) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Board will advise the FBI on the culture of education, including traditions of openness, academic freedom and international involvement, according to FBI spokesperson William Carter. "It's an opportunity for both the FBI and the academic world," he said.

According to PSU President and Board Member Graham Spanier, there has long been a distrust of the FBI by the academic world, and in recent years there has been a strong desire in the U.S. government to make higher education part of the solution to national challenges.

Members of the Board were chosen largely on the basis of which universities received the largest research grants from the federal government.

—The Cavalier Daily

localnews

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STARRY NIGHT BRIGHTENS UP AN EVENING MEAL

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BACK IN BLACK
LOCAL STORES FEEL IMPACT OF SEPTEMBER SALES

Albert Bitici

Vermont Transit bus service cancelled its line which travels in and out of Middlebury in response to steep competition with heavily subsidized Amtrak.

Cancelled bus line leaves students stranded

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

To many students' dismay, the Middlebury Bubble has just lost a major escape route. The rumors are true: the Vermont Transit-sponsored Middlebury bus service has been terminated. Now it sadly seems the only way out of our "academic island in the mountains" is by foot or car. And with the monumental increase in gas prices (see "Amsterdam" below) neither option is desirable.

The Vermont Transit bus service is affiliated with the Greyhound Bus Service. Until recently, the transit line had a stop in Middlebury at the Dunkin' Donuts on Route 7. One would expect to find locals protesting the removal of what is for some the only means of transportation to and from Middlebury, a town whose name takes on a whole new meaning when there is no bus service in or out. But the only person who could offer any information about the cancelled bus service was a convenience store employee who supplied a phone number for whom to talk to about the vanished transit line.

The toll-free 800 number proved less than helpful. The operator curtly replied to inquries that "this is a ticketing office" and "she had been informed that all inquiries about the cancelled bus should be directed to the local politician."

Middlebury Town Manager Bill Finger explained how that this was a political matter and that "the town really doesn't have anything to do with it." According to Finger, Vermont heavily subsidizes Amtrak train service into Montpelier, Rutland and Essex Junction, and some of the train lines are in direct competition with the bus service, which receives little or no state subsidy. Vermont Transit cancelled its service in and out of Middlebury in an effort to cut costs and stay in business despite stiff competition with Amtrak.

Reactions to the cancelled bus service varied among students. Dado Derviskadic '08 summarized the attitude of the majority: "I couldn't care less. I don't take the bus." Jetblue, an airline that offers cheap one-way tickets to New York and Boston out of Burlington, is apparently the most popular alternative to a long ride on the Greyhound bus.

Other students were less ambivalent, particularly those without a car or unlimited funds. James Petsoulakis '06 used to take the Vermont Transit line out of Middlebury to get home to New York City. When asked how he reacted to the news that the bus route had been cancelled, Petsoulakis explained, "Personally I feel terrible. Now if you want to take the bus you have to go all the way to Rutland. This creates more pressure to try to find a ride and it just makes it that much harder to make it without a car. The bus was always a sure thing if I couldn't find a ride."

With the bus service gone, the question arises as to whether the College should step in and offer shuttles to nearby towns that do still offer Vermont Transit lines. But the College already subsidizes the Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) local line. On the website for ACTR, the news and events page recognizes that the generous sponsorship of Middlebury College allowed the transit line to offer the shuttle 'B' bus every morning throughout the summer. According to Executive Director of ACTR Jim Moulton, "We have found that many people [were] using the morning 'B' bus to get to work, so keeping it in service [during the summer] is a great community gift from the College and we are very appreciative."

Sadly, the Vermont Transit bus service out of Middlebury is long gone, taking with it the feasibility of a quick and affordable vacation, whether it is a trip home or simply a break from life in cowland. The Addison County Transit Line is still in operation, but the service only extends as far as Burlington. And as for getting to Rutland, the back of a police car is currently the only public transportation available, but the cost of that trip would obviously be higher than the value.

Think you pay a lot for gas? Amsterdam 'tops off' the list.

Albert Bitici

See how Middlebury gas prices per gallon stack up against other cities around the world. Amsterdam is still the highest place on Earth, though Middlebury's not far behind.

Amsterdam, Netherlands: $6.48
New York, New York: $ 3.19
Los Angeles, California: $3.06
Middlebury, Vermont: $2.95
Houston, Texas: $2.89
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: $0.91
Caracas, Venezuela: $0.19

—Compiled by Andrea Glaessner

New Orleans man returns to his rural roots

Katrina forces Vt. native to head home after losing everything in the storm

By Joshua Carson
Local News Editor

Craig Strachan was one of the lucky ones. Heeding the warnings of the local government, he and his girlfriend Valerie Leous collected a few personal belongings — important documents, light clothing, pictures — and evacuated from the city of New Orleans. Within days, everything they had left was washed away.

Strachan, 28, a native of Barre, Vt., had recently moved to New Orleans to be with his girlfriend and start working in sales for a distribution company. The couple settled in an apartment uptown, not far from Tulane University and a few miles away from the Superdome. Leous, 24, had moved south three years earlier after graduating from the University of Vermont and was working as a physical therapist at a local nursing home.

"I wanted a change of scenery and to get out of the northeast," explained Buffalo native Leous during a telephone interview. "I planned on moving back up, but not this soon."

I'm not too happy with how the government responded. I'm disgusted to be honest with you. It makes me sick.
— Craig Strachan

Strachan and Leous heard about the hurricane before it became serious, but initially did not plan on evacuating. Like the storm that passed through a few months prior, they anticipated rain and power loss, but not much else. As conditions worsened and the hurricane strengthened to a Category Five, the couple left for Atlanta one day before the mandatory evacuation ordered by New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin. By Tuesday, Aug. 30, the flood defenses of the city began to fail and the couple's neighborhood was flooded with five to six feet of water, most likely destroying the possessions they left behind in their first-floor apartment.

"We have neighbors who were just going to wait it out," Leous said. "They didn't have a car and just moved in a week before that. Hopefully they heard about everything. They didn't even have a TV."

As the couple made their way up north by car with only the minimal clothing they initially packed, they were overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from strangers throughout the country. On virtually every radio station, announcements requesting donations and aid were broadcast. On the border of New York and Pennsylvania, Strachan was given a free meal, and when his car battery died, the mechanic repaired it for free.

"It is comforting that people so far away are caring about us. They even honk when they see our [Louisiana] license plate."

At this point, Strachan and Leous are getting readjusted to life in Vermont. Both are currently unemployed and living with Strachan's parents in Barre. Having had no time to prepare financially for such a predicament, the couple now plans to find temporary jobs in Vermont and start making money again. At that point they will decide where to call home, and while many aspects of the relocation are uncertain, they know for sure it will not be Louisiana.

"I want to go [back] to have that closure but I am definitely not going to move back and it definitely will never be the same," said Leous.

But Strachan is excited to be back in a rural environment after nine years of being away. As a skier and mountain enthusiast, he has already noticed differences in the short time he has been back. "In New Orleans you see murders on television every night and in Vermont it's more like 'a cow has been born'." While he confesses that the people are amazing, the lifestyle change from living alone to being back with parents is a difficult one for Strachan. "It sucks," he said.

But he and his girlfriend are receiving help. The local American Red Cross in Vermont donated $360 and both have registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to qualify for a $2,000 credit. Strachan even received a personal $10 donation from an elderly lady in his town.

On the national level, however, he expressed sentiments consistent with other Americans.

"I'm not too happy with how the government responded. I'm disgusted to be honest with you. It makes me sick. I'm not a big Bush supporter anyway and it was just a mess. If something happens again I don't think we are prepared. I was very disappointed."

What went wrong?
Recounting the events of Katrina

08/28 – Katrian strengthens to a Category Five hurricane and Mayor Ray Nagin orders mandatory evacuation of New Orleans.

08/29 – Katrina makes landfall on the Gulf Coast, devastating parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

08/30 – As the storm begins to clear, the destructive effects of the hurricane become more clear. Almost 80 percent of New Orleans is underwater and rescue teams are dispatched to save survivors who are stranded on rooftops.

08/31 – Mayor Nagin orders a full evacuation of the city. As survivors struggle their way to the Superdome for refuge, armed police try to impose martial law to combat looters.

09/01 – The city of New Orleans enters into anarchy with reports of theft, shootings and rape.

09/02 – Relief effort is increased as more National Guard troops are sent to the area and Congress approves $10.5 billion in emergency spending.

09/03 – More than 10,000 people are removed from New Orleans in the largest airlift operation in U.S. history.

09/05 – Residents are allowed to return to inspect their homes and gather personal belongings. Rescuers continue to search the streets for survivors.

Source: news.bbc.co.uk
Layout: Jay Dolan

Starry Night shines with strong Italian fare

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

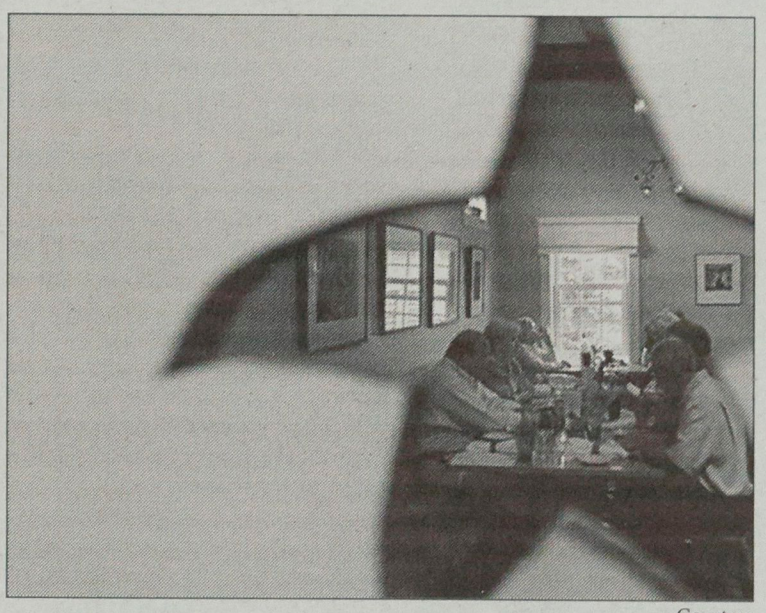
This past week, I had the pleasure of spending a long evening in Ferrisburg, Vt., just off Route 7 at a small cottage of a restaurant — the Starry Night Café.

At Starry Night, everything smells good. The eclectic, dimly-lit décor is a refreshing change for any Middlebury student, offering a quick trip to a distant region, if only for an evening. The food is basic, wholesome and classically "Vermont." But despite its simplicity, the menu covers all the basics, consistently offering fantastic vegetarian dishes as well as fresh game. All ingredients are "home grown" on neighboring farms and are gathered daily for each evening, while the seafood is shipped fresh directly from Boston.

The menu is subtly northern Italian, generally offering such classics as fried calamari, caprice salad and a risotto dish. As of last week, the chef was still displaying his late summer menu, but with fall approaching, the dishes to look out for are the squash soup and Misty Knoll chicken lasagna. The most recent specials included a light quail appetizer and an outstanding cut of venison, prepared over scalloped potatoes with a port wine sauce. Of the usual meat entrees, the New York strip steak or the lamb chops are always a satisfying choice. For dessert, their crème brulée is one of the best I have ever tasted, in this country or elsewhere, and the chocolate martini is always a good bet.

As far as beverages go, the bar offers a number of interesting, if not always delicious, cocktails, including a tasty variety of martinis — the lemonade martini is a perennial favorite for starters. Their wine list is in good shape, although heavily weighted toward California. Of the wines I have tasted, I would recommend the bigger-bodied Syrah- or Cabernet-based wines as these grapes play into California's climatic strengths and drink exceptionally well when paired with the wild game dishes. Upon my last visit, I experimented with a Valpolicella from Italy and was disappointed. Bottom line: stick with the medium-priced ($20) blockbuster wines. If you need a name, the Joseph Phelps Syrah is quite good.

Most importantly, an evening at Starry Night will be a trip away from the flurry of campus life. Every once in a while, dining needs to be more than a rushed refueling at a crowded cafeteria. Dinner should be a relief from the day's troubles — a breeding ground for discussion and laughter. Starry Night may be on the pricier side, but it's worth every penny.



Courtesy
Located in Ferrisburg, Vt. Starry Night Café serves northern Italian dishes Wednesday to Sunday from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Using all local products, Chef David Hugo is also influenced by his Vermont heritage.

College students push up profits at local stores

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

Whether you were sipping your piña colada in Cancún reliving spring break, in New York City on your way to your hedge fund internship or sitting in a dorm room talking to yourself in Chinese last July, you can bet someone here in Middlebury had you on their mind. That is because weeks before you even began to think about books, binders, shelving and shipping, local storeowners were anticipating your arrival. Despite its quaint size and the absence of a Wal-Mart, the town of Middlebury has a solid economy that is relatively dependent on you, a Middlebury student, for growth and sustainability.

For most local stores, September means a rush of sales to incoming students and their comfort-minded parents — which also means greatly increased profits. To prepare for the rush, many storeowners began stocking up as early as July.

Glass Bead Game, Middlebury's own women's fashion boutique, started receiving shipments of designer jeans and sweaters during the summer, when it was too hot to even think of long pants. The boutique's owner, Sheila Simson, says her busiest month is August, when local high school and middle school girls pour in for back-to-school clothes.

But come late September, Simson notices more college-age students perusing for "going-out tops" and designer jeans such as Seven and Citizens of Humanity, two of the highest-volume jean brands sold at Glass Bead Game. According to Simson, she does not see many college shoppers until mid-September because many Middlebury students come back to campus with a slew of new outfits. It takes a couple of weeks to get settled in — and retire that shirt worn to both of the McCullough dances — before students decide they need a new look — and a good study break. October and November are also peak months for the boutique, as more students realize high-quality and high-fashion clothes are just a brisk walk down College Street.

Although September is the typical peak month for student shopping in Middlebury, other local storeowners noticed different trends. Middlebury Discount Beverage Company manager Amber Riley says their peak months are January and May. The reason for increased profits in those particular months is fairly self-explanatory. To most College students, January and May both involve an increase in "beverage" consumption.

The UPS Store also brings in the most profits in May. In fact, the UPS Store was opened nine years ago with College students almost exclusively in mind. Stacey Bougor, the Middlebury location's store manager, says that College students account for 80 percent of sales. May brings the biggest rush as students charge in after finals to ship home everything that does not fit in storage or suitcases. The UPS Store also makes sure to stock up on packing supplies far in advance. "In May, we're out the door in boxes," said Bougor. "You'd be amazed."

Albert Bitici

Shopping at Olympia Sports, Jake Moreno Coplon '08 contemplates a purchase to add to his extensive wardrobe.

Although other stores do not necessarily depend on College students for survival, they certainly do not mind the September boost in sales. Diane Smith, the manager of Aubuchon Hardware on Court Street, typically stocks up on tape, cement blocks, adhesives, light bulbs, shelving and other dorm room essentials for the student rush in the first three weeks of September. But Smith says that their peak months are June and December, since in Vermont, June means the end of the mud season and local shoppers stock up for gardening. December is the time for home improvement for holiday visitors as well as gifts and decoration in general.

"It's the local contractors and home owners that keep us going," said Smith.

So the next time you hit up Ben Franklin for your Halloween costume or order "fingers and toes" at Mister Up's, remember the good you are doing to support the local economy that dresses you, houses you, feeds you and treats you like the influential consumer that you are.

The Middlebury Campus Publications

SEEKS STAFF WRITERS FOR THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

NEWS: Should be in touch with current events and issues on campus.

LOCAL NEWS : Must be interested in town and state politics and community events and have a mind for creative journalism.

OPINIONS: Make your opinion on college, local or national issues heard.

FEATURES: Are you fun? Creative? Write for features.

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SPORTS: Cover Middlebury's athletic teams.

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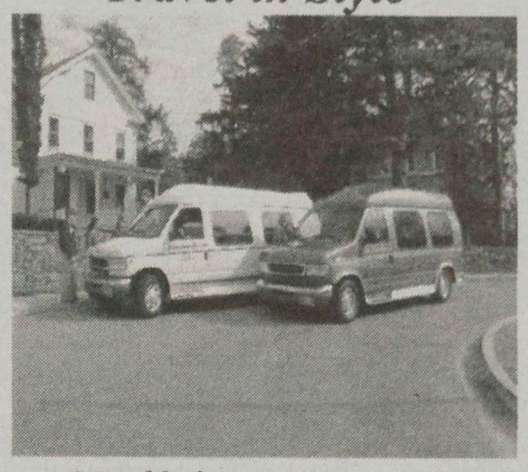

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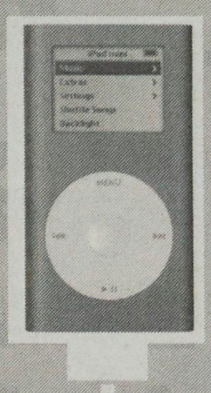

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opinions

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Editorials

A joint challenge issued to students, administration

On a sunny afternoon during finals week last May, Middlebury College students crowded into McCullough Social Space to hear College President Ronald D. Liebowitz address the mounting unrest on campus in response to the O'Neil Walker lawsuit and to explain a series of highly publicized and mostly unpopular decisions on the part of the administration. Passions arose and tempers flared. Liebowitz was put on the defensive and cornered, but even the President acknowledged that he preferred the onslaught to student apathy.

During the meeting, Liebowitz announced that the Board of Trustees had voted not to change the College's non-discrimination policy. He cited continuity of policy with the other NESCAC schools and the educational value of the current policy, which gives discriminating employers the right to recruit on campus after holding an open meeting with the College community.

Considering that the Community Council and the Faculty Council had decisively voted for the change, the administration owes the community a more in-depth explanation, and the students should continue to care enough to demand such accountability.

A proposed acquisition of the Monterey Institute in California was also discouraged by all three major decision-making bodies: the Faculty Council, Community Council and Student Government Association. A compromise decision, calling for an affiliation between Middlebury and Monterey that did not hold the College accountable for the Institute's debts, was agreed upon and announced over the summer.

These recent episodes show that the voices of the College community are becoming increasingly ignored in the administration's final decisions.

Not only must there be open lines of communication among students, faculty, staff and administration, but the College community also deserves affirmation that its opinions are being acted upon. Liebowitz has promised to be more available to students this year and to continue meeting with them over lunch. These intentions are promising, but the test will be if, midway through the semester, the community honestly feels more engaged in the College's decisions. Students should consider this a challenge for Liebowitz this year, and should voice their concern if the President does not satisfy our expectations. Administrators, always bear in mind that you run the College for its constituents, and you must keep all of them satisfied.

The Walker case: Get the facts straight first

Middlebury students should be concerned about racial tensions on campus, and the fact that so many students rallied around O'Neil Walker last spring when he faced suspension and subsequently filed suit against the College on the basis of racial discrimination is laudable. But students also have a responsibility to get all the facts before jumping on the protest bandwagon — court records for the case are available to the public.

Students should also have confidence in the College's judicial process. They should be aware that the College's judicial process is the ruling authority of handbook policy, and subsequent decisions do not reflect the College's opinions on race matters or other contentious issues. Members of the College community should therefore have confidence in their ruling body.

The Village Voice publication should repent for practicing irresponsible journalism in the form of Aina Hunter's biased and one-sided "Busted for blackness at Middlebury" article last June.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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HEARD ON CAMPUS

"If I had believed that Mr. Walker's race was prejudicially or inappropriately considered in the process of the underlying investigation, or the charge process, I would not have supported the pursuit of discipline as I did."

- Marichal Gentry, Associate Dean of the College, in a court affadavit over the summer

ILLUSTRATION BY SAM DAKOTA MILLER

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I second Jake Kuipers' opinion printed in last week's paper [*Notes from the Desk*, Sept. 15, 2005].

It is absurd that students living outside the New England area are provided with absolutely no support from Middlebury at the beginning and end of each semester. As a student from California, the expedition to and from Midd averages 12 hours with stopovers and often exceeds that with delays and cancellations.

I can only imagine what international students must go through. I chose to attend Middlebury knowing full well the burden of traveling, but couldn't the SGA or President Liebowitz help to alleviate the aggravation?

A sponsored van to Burlington Airport?

An extra day to settle in? We give you demographics, give us some support.

Sincerely,
Maia Hollinger '06.5
Studio City, Calif.

To the Editor:

I read about the new liquor inspector Michael Davidson in the last issue of *The Campus* and am writing in response to his new rule that all parties must submit a "party list".

This rule has implications that go far beyond alcohol safety. It demonstrates a very poor conception of the spontaneous nature of social life at college. No one wants to plan his or her weekends, as a host or hostess, or as an invitee, days in advance. I highly doubt that Mr. Davidson ever boarded at a college. If he did, he surely never left his room.

Sincerely,
Charles Goulding '05
Austin, Texas

Cashing in unexpectedly

For $5,940 you can purchase 18,000 "Support Our Troops Car Ribbon Magnets" at www.flagsoncars.com. This vendor is charging you $0.33 per magnet and tells you that the magnets retail for $5 each. If you follow their price guideline you would be making $4.67 from the sale of each magnet. If you're a good sales person and sell all 18,000 magnets you will make $84,060.

That's $84,060.00 that is NOT going to support American Troops. For those of you who need clarification, what I am saying is that when you buy a "Support Our Troops Car Ribbon Magnet" you are supporting the manufacturer and the seller of the magnet. Your money is not going to support the troops.

The Bush administration is looking for a way to fund the war in Iraq. I recommend that Bush's people get in touch with the magnet sellers and find a way to cash in on the American public's "Support for the Troops."

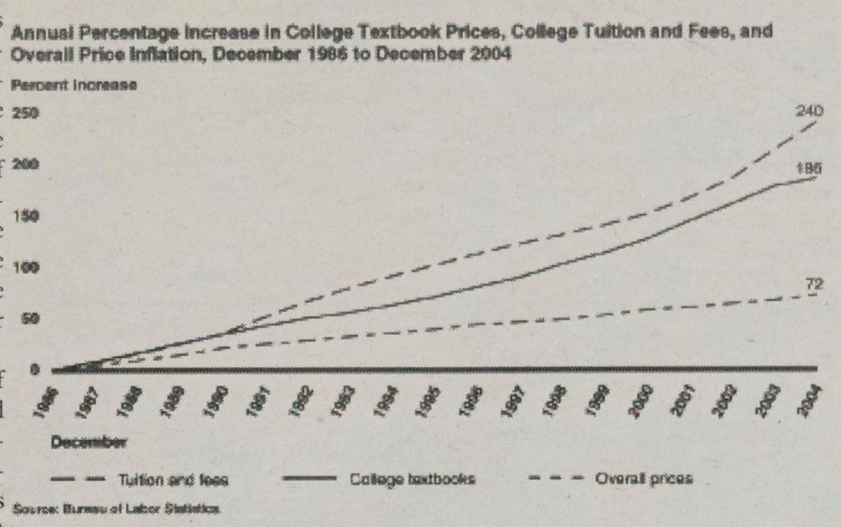
Oh and by the way, my roommate and I have decided to manufacture and sell "Support the Ross Rhino Ribbons." What? The idea is good for at least a couple hundred bucks. And no, we don't intend on donating any of the profit to Ross Commons.

ABBY WILLMAN '08.5
AN UNDELCARED MAJOR
FROM GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLO.

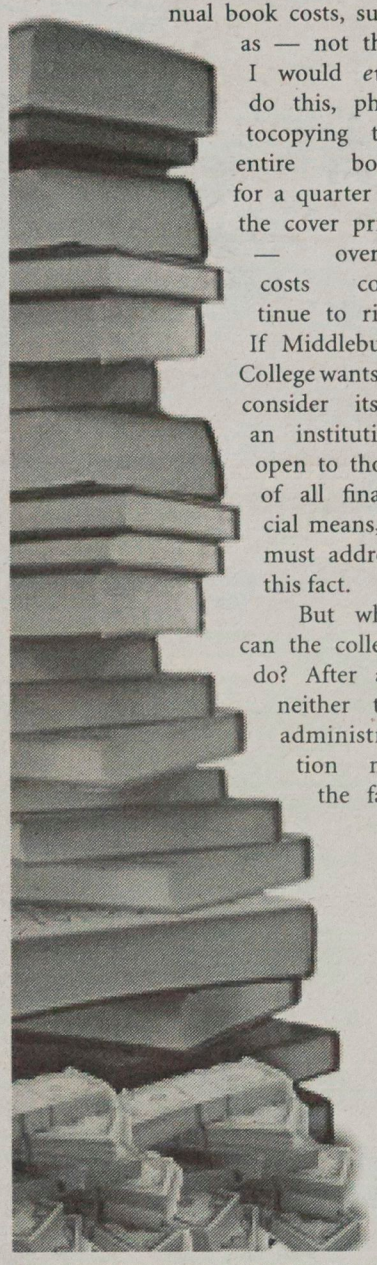
Price of Middlebury: $42,120*

*Note: price subject to change upon purchasing books

Last week, as I joined my peers in the semiannual rush to the College bookstore, I was unusually flabbergasted at what I saw. For three courses I was being asked to purchase 35 books — at a total cost just shy of $600. Were it not for the dubious reprieve offered by my thesis, the price of my books alone would have come perilously close to the $875 figure that the College deems sufficient for a semester's total living costs.



The price of books is out of hand. It has been rising for years, and is continuing to do so unabated. According to the Government Accountability Office, over the past 20 years "college textbook prices have risen at double the rate of inflation." See the full report at www.gao.gov/new.items/d05806.pdf. And students themselves — particularly those without the luxury of simply charging their purchases to daddy's credit card — are bearing the brunt of these costs. While ways remain to reduce somewhat one's annual book costs, such as — not that I would *ever* do this, photocopying the entire book for a quarter of the cover price — overall costs continue to rise. If Middlebury College wants to consider itself an institution open to those of all financial means, it must address this fact.



But what can the college do? After all, neither the administration nor the faculty has any control over book prices. Are we not all simply pawns to the whims of the giant publishing companies, helpless to prevent the spiraling cost of our education?

The answer is no. I submit that the administration and the faculty both have the capacity, nay, the *responsibility*, to ensure that book costs do not unfairly burden their more cash-strapped students. Steps must be taken, both in the short term and the long term, to ease this problem.

First of all, dearest professors, don't put more than 10 books on the purchase list — ever. Yours are not the only demands on your students. A student facing 40 books to read in 12 weeks *will* need to cut corners somewhere, and much of the reading simply won't get done.

Second, please take a moment to find cheaper options — try not to insist on any particular edition. Is the 12th edition of Microeconomics for Dummies really necessary? Have widgets really changed that much since the 11th edition came out in 2003? Remember that your decisions have double impact on us students, who must not only buy a brand new and expensive volume, but can no longer sell our old editions. Truly exceptional professors, and there are a few, go so far as to donate the royalties from their own books back to students who must buy them.

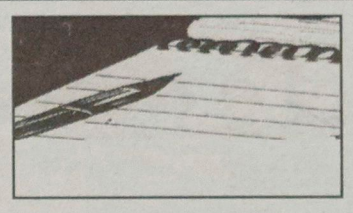
Mr. President and Messrs Trustees, you too must share in the rising burden the students under your care are facing. The first thing you can do is help our professors to see the students' plight. Issue guidelines to the faculty that enact some of the above suggestions, such as establishing a price cap on professors' book costs. An official reprimand, allowing of course for unusual circumstances and special needs, would be sent to professors whose bill rises over, say, $100 per course. Additionally, the price of books should be listed in the course description in the catalog, letting students know what to expect and choose courses with their actual cost in mind.

There should definitely be more than one copy of required texts in the library. For those most heavily taken courses that perennially use the same or very similar texts, having the library shell out the one-time cost of buying 100 books will result in overall savings. Each student in that course, instead of purchasing his or her own copy, would be able to draw from the library cache. The library could insure against loss by charging a deposit, which would then be fully refunded with the return, in good condition, of the book.

Finally, why not include the cost of books in the tuition price? That way they would be directly covered by financial aid, putting students of lesser means on an equal footing with their more wealthy peers. Moreover, it would give you, Mr. President, a direct incentive to pay more attention to the "ancillary" costs your students are facing, and seek to minimize them. Professor Ian Ayres, of Yale University, offers a good argument for including books in tuition — see the *New York Times* of Sept. 16 2005.

Mr. President, Messrs Trustees and esteemed Professors: you face a critical choice. You must decide whether you want a college that continues to discriminate against those unable to throw down $1,000 beyond tuition every year. For unless steps are taken to bring book costs down, a Middlebury education risks becoming unaffordable to many of our best and brightest.

DAVID MURPHY HAGLUND '06
A HISTORY MAJOR
FROM KINGSTON, ONTARIO



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

Red and white lights were blinking behind us on the deserted road. Our car pulled over to the side and we sat waiting for a full five minutes before we saw a man holding a flashlight approach us. Let me say here that I have never faced a cop or a police officer before. Luckily we were not in possession of any hallucinogenic substances, or we would have had a lot more charges to deal with.

What we did have were three underage passengers whom the cop suspected had been drinking, but more importantly, one completely sober driver — she blew a .000 on the Breathalyzer test.

In my book, that should have been the point where the officers let us go and congratulated us on how responsible we were for not drinking and driving. Instead, each of the passengers was taken aside separately and asked to take a Breathalyzer test. As each of my friends was pulled out of the car I wondered if what the officers were doing was even legal. Didn't a sober driver give us the OK to proceed? I later found out that Vermont law allows officers to give breathalyzers to passengers if they suspect that there are minors in the car who have been drinking.

One of my friends refused to take the test. The other didn't know she even had that option. I first refused the test, but then, after the police threatened to take me to Rutland, I caved in.

Throughout the uncomfortable situation hundreds of questions raced through my mind. Did the police have the right to make these types of threats? Were these officers harassing me because I didn't know the law? Did I have to answer all their questions? Could such a violation actually take away my financial aid? Would this go on my record? What about parental involvement?

After I returned to campus, I felt extremely frustrated and helpless, but more importantly, I felt angry with myself. I felt I had incriminated myself because the threats the officers used were intimidating, yet, as I later found out, had little basis. I was mad that I didn't know better and mostly that I ought to have known better. Had I known what my rights were in this situation, I think I would have handled things a lot differently, even if the outcome was the same. All the passengers received violation 7 V.S.A, possession or consumption of alcohol by minors.

I'm sure this case isn't unique. In fact, I've talked to a lot of students who have been in similar situations. It seems like all these stories are linked by one thing — students not knowing their options. Shouldn't it be the College's responsibility not only to educate students about the dangers of alcohol and substance abuse, but also to provide them with the necessary tools to defend themselves in a situation like mine?

Thinking back to orientation, I cannot remember one lecture about Vermont laws amid all the safe sex, class registration and athletics speeches. Shouldn't legal issues appear at the top of the list? Since Middlebury College cannot take responsibility for its students' actions once they leave the campus, it is especially important that we take the time to educate ourselves about our legal rights.

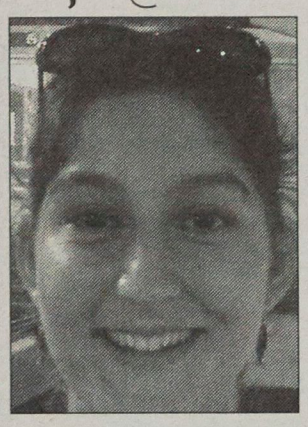
But perhaps it is not the College's position to educate us on these manners. We are, except for the occasional first-year, legal adults and are responsible for knowing the laws. Middlebury can help us to do this, but we need to ask the College first.

I want to add here that I have received a lot of support and guidance from Middlebury deans and even Public Safety when I discussed my concerns with them. But for me, all these discussions came a little too late. I wish I had known what I do now before the incident so that it could have been avoided.

Though we may not always make the best decisions throughout our time here at Middlebury, we should at least have the knowledge to assess all situations from am informed legal perspective, and to feel in control if charges are brought against us.

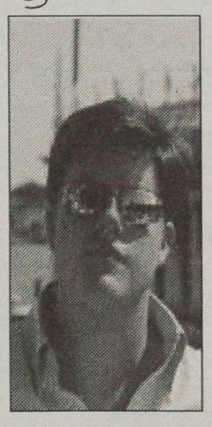
-DINA MAGARIL
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The Middlebury Campus online poll



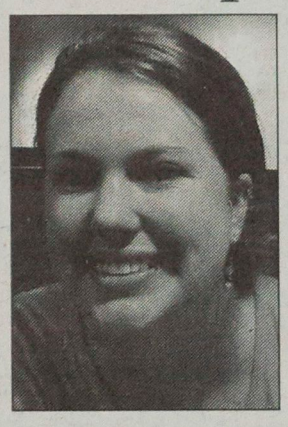
"THE SCHOOL WAS REALLY INVOLVED, BUT THE STUDENTS DIDN'T SEEM VERY INVESTED IN THE EFFORT."

—MORIAH HELMS '08.5



"WHERE WERE THE RED CROSS TRAINING COURSES ON CAMPUS? THE BUSES OF VOLUNTEERS HEADING SOUTH? OUR ACTIONS WERE SO TYPICALLY AMERICAN, KEEPING THE THIRD-WORLD AT ARM'S LENGTH."

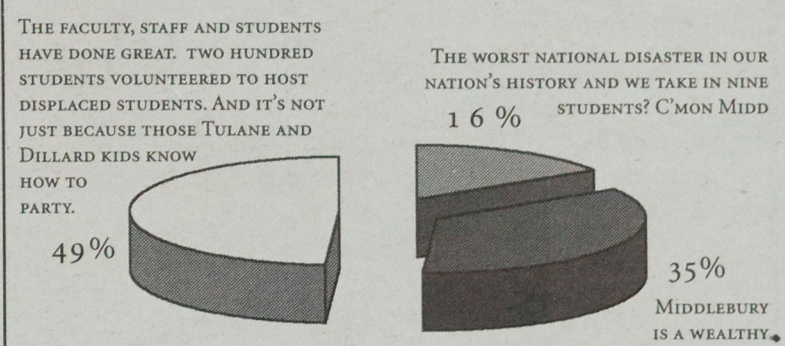
—THEO MAY '08



"I THINK OVERALL THE RESONSE OF THE COLLEGE IN TAKING IN DISPLACED STUDENTS HAS BEEN AWESOME."

—PRICE MASSEY '06

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE'S RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA?


THE FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS HAVE DONE GREAT. TWO HUNDRED STUDENTS VOLUNTEERED TO HOST DISPLACED STUDENTS. AND IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE THOSE TULANE AND DILLARD KIDS KNOW HOW TO PARTY.
49%
THE WORST NATIONAL DISASTER IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY AND WE TAKE IN NINE STUDENTS? C'MON MIDD
16 %
35%
MIDDLEBURY IS A WEALTHY SCHOOL, AND THE SITUATION IN LOUISIANA AND THE SURROUNDING STATES IS DEVASTATING. WE'VE DONE OUR PART BUT WE HAVEN'T GONE BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY.

Results based on 92 responses collected between September 13 and Setember 20 at middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MIDDLEBURY'S NEW GUEST-LIST POLICY FOR PARTIES?

Where does our College invest its money?

Please allow me a brief, but far from immaterial, history lesson: In 1883, workers at the Vermont Copper Mining Company in Rutland took up arms demanding payment of wages owed them by their employer. In response, then-governor Barstow called on the local regiment of the Vermont militia to keep the strikers down. Among the volunteers was the owner of the Producers Marble Company, a powerful businessman who made no pretense of his unwillingness to share political power with a burgeoning labor movement.

Liebowitz should make socially responsible investment one of the priorities of his term as president.

He was a man who, by 1894, would buy out every small marble producer in the State of Vermont. His infamous success as a cutthroat industrialist would later propel him into the State Assembly, the Governorship, the United States Senate and the presidential cabinet as Secretary of War under President Benjamin Harrison.

A generation later, his son would serve as Governor and continue to advance business interests at the expense of participatory democracy. In August 1924, he would commit his most infamous act in office: pardoning three Klu Klux Klansmen after they had stolen religious items from a Catholic church in Burlington and fired shots at the congregation.

One of these men was named Redfield Proctor. One of the Dining Halls at Middlebury College bears the latter's namesake since he was also, in addition to a politician, a trustee of the College.

How does this all relate to our institution in the year 2005? Ask any trustee, or even President Leibowitz, and they'd probably have some idea of what you were getting at. Middlebury, after all, has a $703 million endowment, and a sizeable chunk of it is invested somewhere in this wide financial world. Where exactly, we couldn't say, since the College's endowment is shrouded in a "non-disclosure" policy — a polite way of saying, quite literally, to the College community, "none of your business."

But while we're not allowed to know where that money's invested, one could guess, with a fair degree of certainty, that some of it is invested in corporations. And on top of that, it's probable that at least a portion of *that* money is invested in some of the more lucrative corporations of the day — weapons manufacturers, prison contractors, oil conglomerates and so on.

Those in charge of managing Middlebury's endowment, like former Governor Proctor, are powerful businessmen and women who make a living by turning a profit. Thus, the fact that President Leibowitz and his administration won't tell us where our money is invested makes even the most casual observer extremely suspicious, and for good reason. At a place where intellectual freedom is a prized commodity, so to speak, the students and faculty have a right to know where the money that waters their lawn has been. Why is this information being withheld from the College community?

For our own good, of course. That's the excuse we're given by the powers-that-be. If Middlebury were to disclose where its endowment was invested, they say, other schools would be able to take advantage of the information — outdated Bose speakers in Ross! BYOB graduation galas! A shortage of tiramisu in our beloved Proctor Hall!

But that argument doesn't hold up after a cursory look at other prestigious academic institutions around the country. Schools like Harvard, Columbia, Stanford, Barnard, Swarthmore, U Penn and — gasp —Williams all boast endowments of varying degrees of transparency. In other words, students and faculty have some input in the process of deciding what kind of companies their institutions invest in. No matter what statistics our administration might throw at us, our competitor schools have not slipped in prestige or financial viability as a result of switching to more transparent investment strategies.

Now, as the bounty of summer has recently expired, it's time to start talking about another kind of green. The prospect of a reconfigured endowment makes sense when considered in light of Middlebury's other environmentally and socially responsible initiatives, like the new wind power turbine. Plus, if some investments were re-directed towards business ventures in Addison County, the College could help strengthen an ever-important local economy.

President Leibowitz should make socially responsible investment one of the priorities for his term as president. He can start right now by explaining to the entire campus community exactly why our endowment isn't transparent, and what it will take to change it. Then students, faculty, administrators, financial consultants, community members, alumni and trustees alike can begin working together to establish an honest and intelligent system of investment that keeps everyone satisfied while maintaining the endowment's good health.

The smell of Proctor sours a bit when you know its history. Just imagine what else could be lurking under our collective nose.

MIKE IVES '06.5
AN INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
FROM LARCHMONT, N.Y.

The Middlebury Campus

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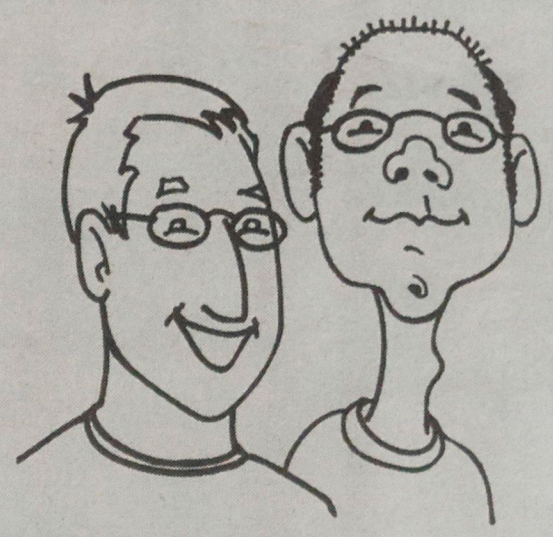

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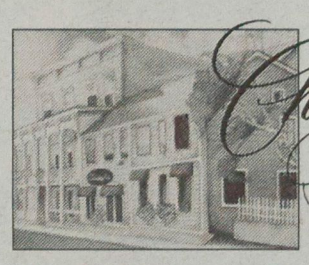
COME TO AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 **4:00 P.M.** **LAWRENCE RM 20**

If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact your Study Abroad Advisor or
The Swedish Program, Hamilton College, 198 College Hill Road, Clinton, New York 13323
(315) 737–0123 www.swedishprogram.org



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Activities 101

Unique Clubs and Organization

Polar Bears

According to "Mama Bear" Caitlin Littlefield '07, the polar bears, Middlebury's very own nude swimming club, hosted 131 participants for this year's "big dip." The polar bears generally take the winter off, but Littlefield said there are probably "five or six members [who are] crazy enough to go during J-Term."

"Getting naked and going swimming in freezing cold water with 100 of your closest friends is probably the best study break ever conceived," said Steph Levine '08.

"We also have some wicked sweet swimming spots around here, and most other groups on campus just sit inside," added Littlefield. "We hit up Lake Dunmore, East Middlebury, Otter Creek (only before they spread manure), Professor Don Mitchell's pond and the Dog Team Tavern. Jumping naked into Bristol Falls is pretty fantastic, too."

Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate frisbee has been around since the late 1970s, and its popularity at Middlebury continues to grow.

According to Party Captain Elliott Turley '06, the team starts out with "untold numbers," but usually dwindles to about 50 regular players.

What's the absolute coolest thing about ultimate? What truly sets it apart? "Definitely flair," affirms Turley. "Behavioral and dress. And men in skirts."

Iron Chef

Iron Chef, based on the famous Food Network program of the same name, pits opposing chefs against each other in a timed cook-off involving a secret ingredient. The event was first held by Cook Commons during J-Term 2003 as an intra-commons event.

The following January, Cook challenged Ross Commons to a cook-off featuring the best team from each commons in what Elizabeth Schaumberg '06, a former Cook Commons tri-chair, called "a little inter-commons rivalry."

The secret ingredients used in the Middlebury Iron Chef competitions make for some intriguing results. In 2003, the secret ingredient was pears. J-Term 2004 featured the potato, and last J-Term the challenge involved mushrooms. The secret ingredient must be used in all dishes prepared, including any desserts.

The best reason to come and watch Iron Chef: Seeing Cook Commons Dean David Edleson all dressed up. Example: one year Edleson went as the drag-inspired "Yoko Homo."

s at Midd

Middlebury Brothel

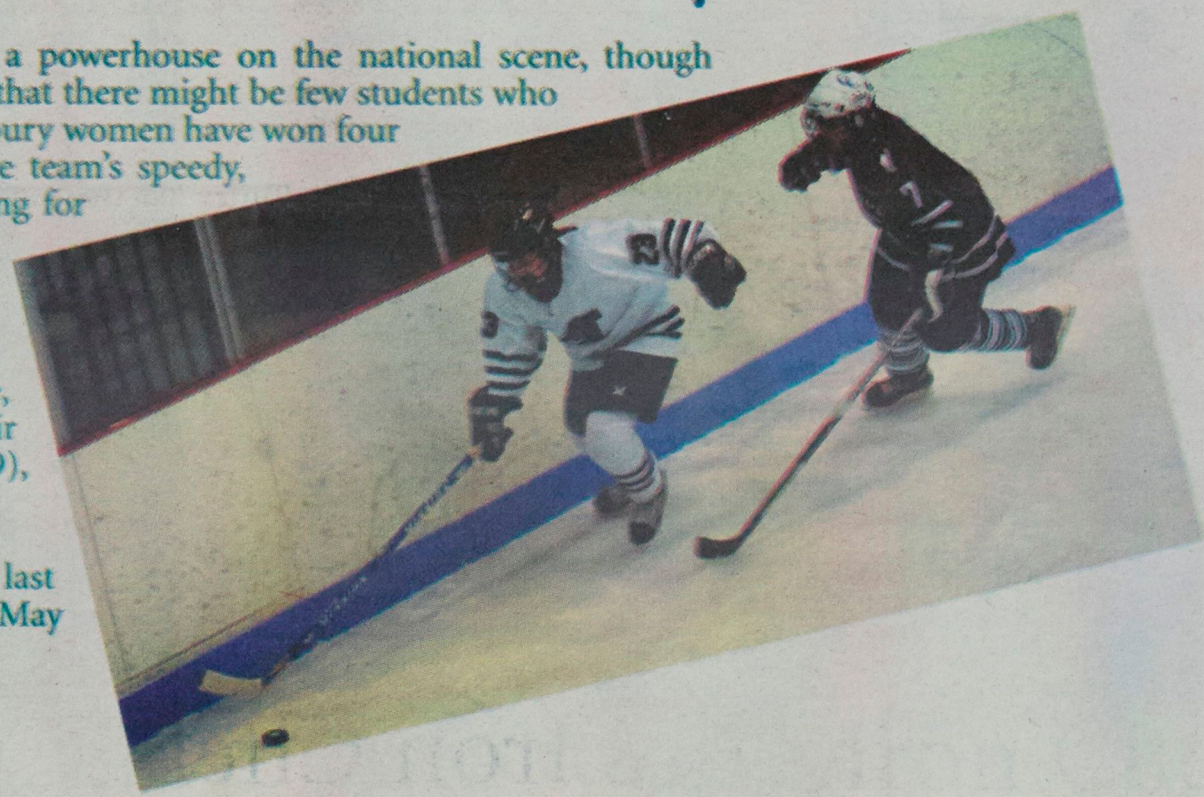
The Middlebury Brothel was founded last spring by juniors Ellen Wohlberg and Charlie Tomm as an alternative outlet for their improv comedy interest — both were rejected by the Otter Nonsense Players. Tomm is known for his impersonations of, among others, Presidents Bush an Liebowitz, while Wohlberg specializes in creating quirky characters such as Steve, a tattooed, knife-wielding squirrel.

What's with the name? "We just tried to think of the last type of establishment you'd expect to find at a top liberal arts college, and a brothel came to mind," said Wohlberg and Tomm.

The group in one word: "Loose."

Women's Hockey

The women's hockey team has long been a powerhouse on the national scene, though frustratingly low attendance figures suggest that there might be few students who are aware of the team's success. The Middlebury women have won four of the last six national championships. The team's speedy, scrappy style makes games especially exciting for spectators, according to Liz Yale-Loehr '06 and Kate Kogut '06.



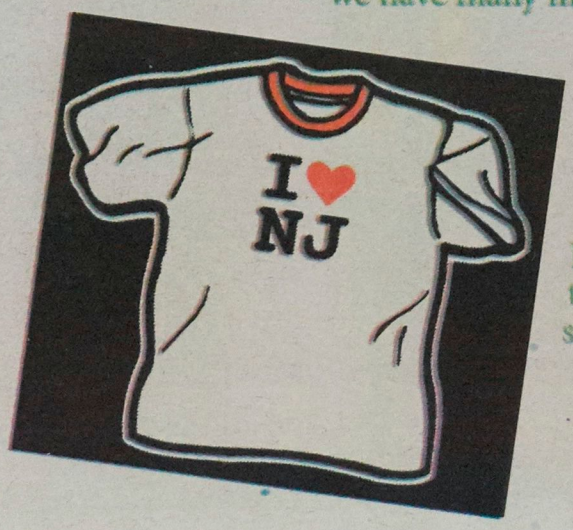
Major in-conference rivals include Bowdoin and Williams. Outside the conference, major competition comes from Elmira (their opponent for the first game on Nov. 19), Plattsburgh and Gustavus Adolphus.

Little known fact: "We had a lucky team pet last year named Scoop, who was a hermit crab. May he live in peace."

Lovers of the Garden State

The first official meeting of Lovers of the Garden State (LOGS) was held in the fall of 2000, with President and Founder Mike Kirkland '03.5 presiding.

According to current President Steve Beslow '06, "There is no official count on the number of members in LOGS, as we have many members who can only attend some of our events, which include weekly/bi-weekly meetings, screenings, field trips (to New Jersey) and campus-wide parties. On average, anywhere from six to 15 people may attend any given meeting."



According to Beslow, LOGS stands out because it "represents the type of community that we think is best representative of New Jersey. Several other clubs are based on states and/or regions, but none meet as often or have as dedicated a central membership as does LOGS. Not to mention that at the first Middlebury Regional Olympics, LOGS absolutely destroyed the competition (Southern Society, Midwest is Best and the Vermonters), claiming an almost spotless victory."

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BIO PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH LENDS THE ENVIRONMENT A HELPING HAND

Monumental map reveals Champlain floor

By Mallika Rao
Staff Writer

On July 7, 2005, Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy and Middlebury College President Ronald D. Liebowitz joined Middlebury College researchers at the John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall as they unveiled the result of a decade's worth of research — a new eight-foot bathymetric map reproducing the world's most comprehensive understanding of Lake Champlain's underwater terrain. The presentation of the map was followed by a discussion of how to share this extensive body of information with the public.

Initiated in 1996, the "Whole Lake Survey" undertaken by Middlebury College scientists and researchers and the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) responded both to the Zebra Mussel invasion as well as to interest in then-undiscovered historic shipwrecks hiding on the lake's floor. At the project's beginning, over 90 percent of Lake Champlain remained unexamined. Now, more than 95 percent of the lake bottom exists in image form, collected with the help of cutting-edge marine survey technology. Additionally, over 70 new shipwrecks were discovered and documented.

Liebowitz applauded the work of Tom Manley, visiting assistant professor of Geology, and Pat Manley, associate professor of Geology, in the successful completion of this project. He cited their work with students as emblematic of the kind of collaborations hoped for at Middlebury. Among the principal student participants are Laura Kelly '06, G. Burch Fisher '03 and Joseph Coish, a 2005 graduate of Middlebury Union High School.

Mr. Manley acknowledged Vermont Senator Leahy as one of the main enablers of their research. "If it weren't for his help in bringing money into the basin project, what we did would never have been possible," he said. Leahy praised the effort, noting the vast quantity of shipwrecks found as an indication that Lake Champlain may be one of North America's most historically important bodies of water. He extended his commendations to a more environmental realm as well. Finding "this new map, with its new insights into the bottom topography of the lake is an invaluable aid to researchers in understanding the role of hyrodynamics in the lake's living ecology," Leahy said.

According to Mr. Manley, the map will also help in broadening navigational possibilities. With its completion, the number of navigational data points available has multiplied substantially. Fisheries concerned with locating areas of spawning are already expressing interest in the new research. Manley speculates that municipalities may also find the map useful in implementing water intake and sewage discharge pipes.

Art Cohn, of the LCMM, served as the survey's project manager. Like Leahy, he referred to the newly discovered shipwrecks as a nationally important historic refiguring. Importantly, the state-of-the-art technology used in the project allowed these shipwrecks to be documented in their pre-zebra mussel condition. The new sets of data are helping to create a more correct understanding of the evolution of Lake Champlain.

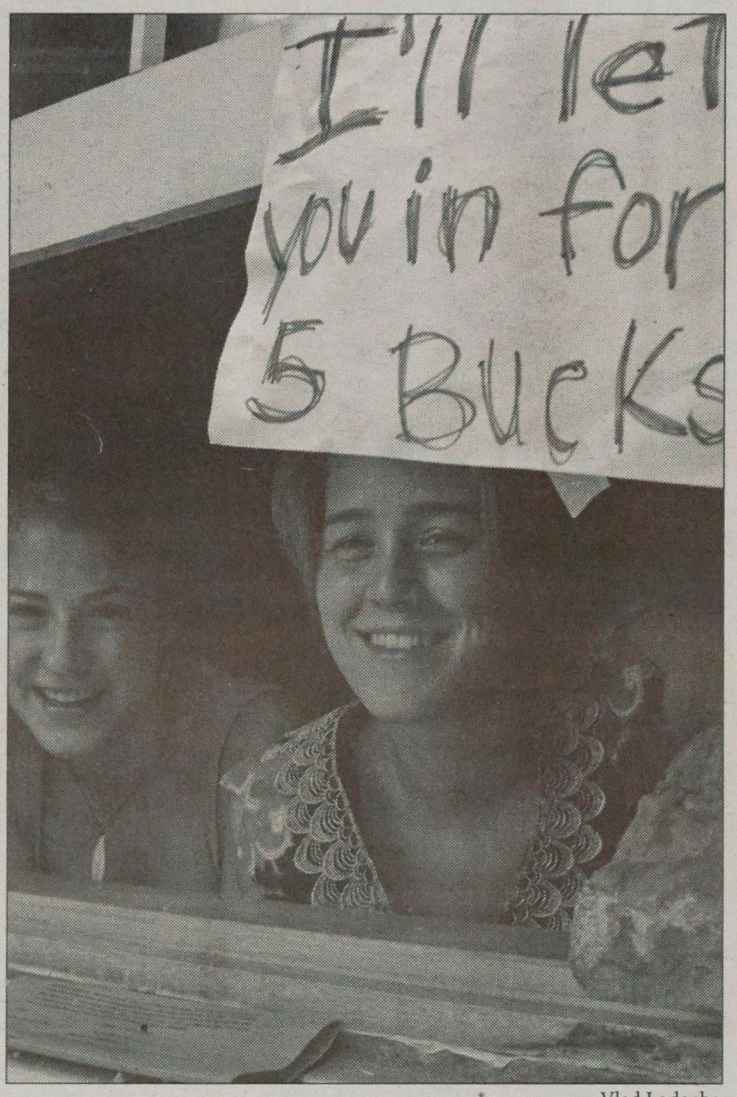
For seven years, oceanography and marine geology students helped to collect information. Their homework took place atop the R/V Baldwin —a research vessel owned by the college and captained by Mr. Manley. The results of this research, illustrated by the map, include new shoals, rises, plateaus and faults. Additionally, the understanding of previously identified structures — such as Juniper Ridge, located off Burlington Bay — is now significantly more comprehensive.

While the original data for earlier maps of the lake bottom involved less than 10,000 measurements, the new map draws on almost 735,000 measurements. But still more work will be done. "We need to go back out there to fill in some of the gaps," Mrs. Manley said. She added that new instrumentation permits a further exploration the lake's sub-bottom, at the sediments and material that make up Champlain's deeper history.

Albert Bitici

After decades of research, a completely up-to-date map including most of the lake's bottom, has been unveiled.

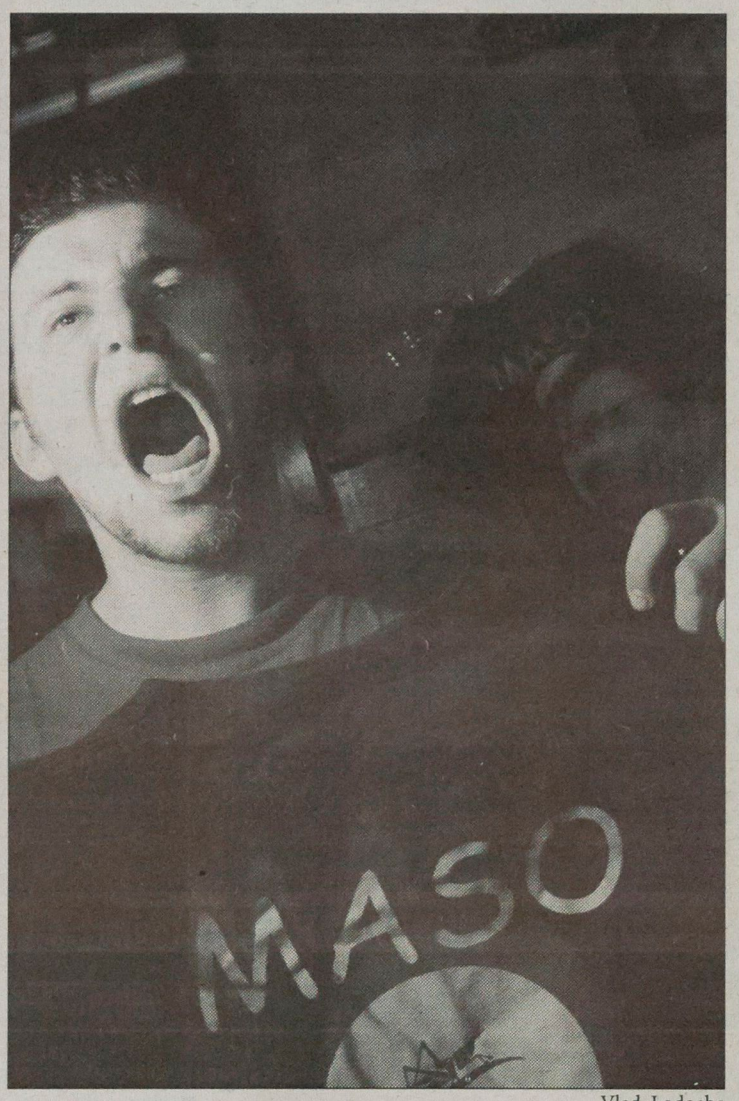
What can you get for five dollars?



Vlad Lodoaba

Using their room's location to make a profit, Hillary Gerardi and Justine Jackson both '08.5 have become notorious for the clever sign hanging in their window.

Join my club!

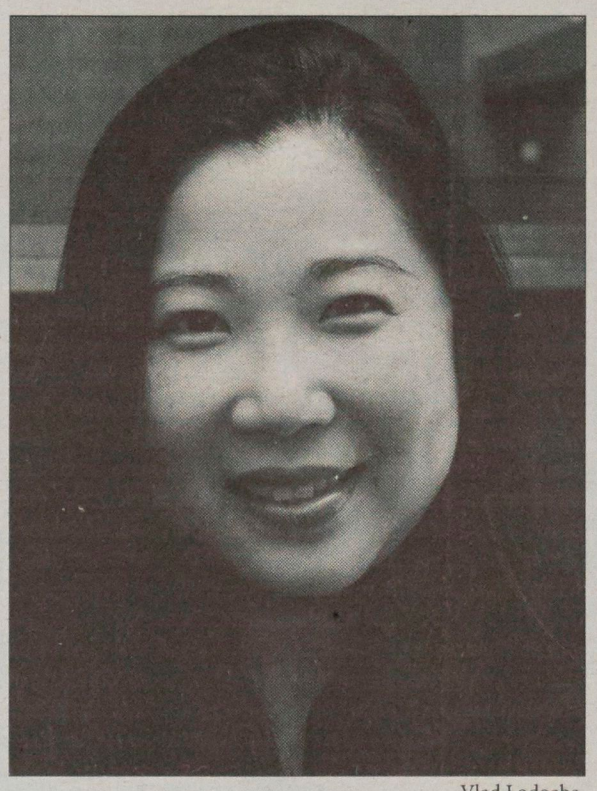


Vlad Lodoaba

Expressing Middlebury Asian Students Organization (MASO) enthusiast, Alex Gilman '06, attempts to attract wandering students at last Thursday's Activity Fair in McCullough.

Campus spotlight on new Midd professors

As the new school year kicks into gear, *The Middlebury Campus* decided to find out more about a few of the new professors on the block. Dina Magaril sat down with three of the fresh faculty faces on campus to ask about everything from research projects to their first day of school at Middlebury.



Vlad Lodoaba

Cho has been warmly welcomed during her first week.

GRACE CHO

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Assistant Professor of Psychology Grace Cho, known simply to students as Grace — she prefers that they address her informally — is one of Middlebury's newest professors. A Los Angeles native and former Bay Area resident, Cho received her undergraduate degree at the University of California at Santa Cruz and then took a year off to travel. Though Cho says she was always interested in psychology, she didn't choose it as a profession until long after college. In fact, she started out studying dentistry and then moved on to interior design before opting to specialize in developmental psychology. Cho described her brief experience working as a clinical psychologist as "eye opening."

"I think it takes a certain kind of personality to work in those clinics and a lot of emotional strength," said Cho of her time spent at the clinic. "I would just feel so drained and sad after work." From there, Cho enrolled at the University of Illinois, where she acquired most of her teaching experience. There she taught courses on child psychology and social development, in addition to working in various psychological labs.

So how did this California girl end up in the hills of Vermont? "I wanted to be at a school that was supportive of research but that would also encourage me to be a better teacher," Cho said. She currently teaches an introductory psychology class as well as one on social and personality development. Cho said she's adjusting surprisingly well to her surroundings even though she did have a few misunderstandings on campus. "People thought I was a student," she laughed. "I went into Old Chapel to deliver some papers and they told me students weren't allowed in that building." Despite being mistaken for an undergrad, Cho said her transition has been relatively smooth. In fact, she was surprised at how many students stopped by her room — she lives on campus in faculty housing — just to say hello. "I thought they were students in my class who wanted to say hi," she said, " but it turns out they were just your regular Middlebury students."

KELLY COLE

Visiting Assistant Professor of American Civilization

Visiting Professor of American Civilization Kelly Cole '94 had little trouble finding her way around campus the first day of classes. Cole, who previously taught an American Civilization course at Middlebury in 2001, actually attended Middlebury 11 years ago. "Everyone wants to come back here," she said, "and I was lucky enough to have that opportunity."

Cole received her graduate degree from the University of Wisconsin in Media and Cultural studies. The new professor currently teaches two courses at Middlebury: "TV and American Culture" and "The Cultural History of Advertising."

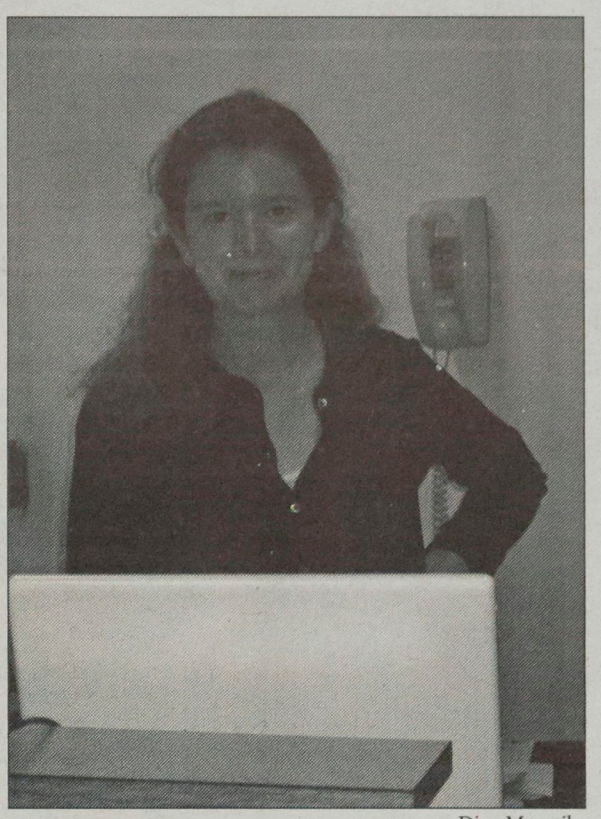
Since Cole's energy in the classroom is infectious, one would never guess that she actually commutes to campus every weekend and has good reason to be tired when she gets here. "I live in D.C. and take a plane every weekend," she said. "It's really not that bad. I stay up late and I'm kind of nocturnal so I find the time to do what I need to get done."

Though Cole was a student only a little over a decade ago, she doesn't believe all that much has changed. "The buildings are a whole lot nicer," she joked, "but the students are the same. They're active and interesting and everyone does so much."

She herself was very active while studying at Middlebury. Cole sang with the Mischords and was one of the founding members of Otter Nonsense, Middlebury's improv comedy group. Asked if she had any bad memories of Middlebury, Cole shook her head. "I guess we all tend to romanticize a school once we leave it."

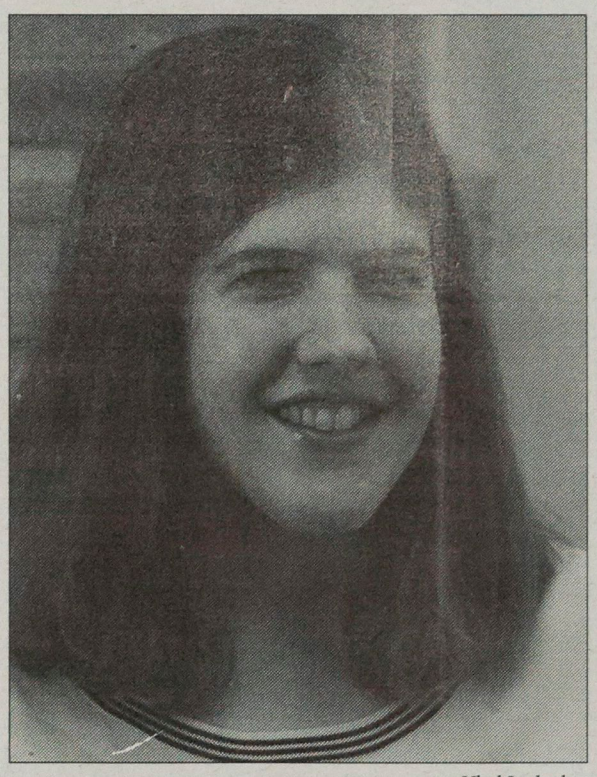
Cole especially likes spending time with professors she had when she was a student and feels lucky that she has the opportunity to get to know some of her favorite teachers outside of the classroom. "I got to see a whole new side to my old teachers. They don't just lecture, they have families, they're real people," she said.

And for those of you that have lost all hope of finding true love at Middlebury, look no further than Cole for inspiration. "My husband was in the year before mine at Middlebury," she said. "But we had nothing in common, I was an English major, he majored in Chinese and Political Science." Though she plans to leave after teaching a J-Term class on horror films, Cole says she wants to continue teaching, probably in the D.C. area. "I love teaching," she said "and I'll definitely stick to it."



Dina Magaril

Visiting Assistant Professor of American Civilization Kelly Cole '94 met her husband at Middlebury.



Vlad Lodoaba

Visiting Instructor Jill Coleman will be at Middlebury for the next three years with the Psychology Dept.

JILL COLEMAN

Visting Instructor in Psychology

Another new young face in the Psychology Department is that of Visiting Instructor in Psychology Jill Coleman. Like Cho, Coleman received her graduate education at the University of Illinois. "I knew of Grace through mutual friends," she said "but it's a total coincidence that we both ended up working here."

Coleman grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and received her undergraduate degree from Loyola University. Coleman received her doctorate in social psychology and is interested in the topic of social identity — "basically how people think of themselves when they are in social groups," she said. Coleman has also done research on gender differences, and is currently doing research on people's perceptions of stay-at-home dads versus working fathers. "It's a new thing that hasn't been done a lot before," she said. Like Cho, Coleman began her teaching career at the University of Illinois. I was 22 and teaching courses," she said, "and even though I'm a shy person, I really liked it." Coleman heard about Middlebury through a friend and was intrigued by the focus on teaching at the College. Coming from a big research institution, she was excited about the community at Middlebury. "Everyone here is so amazingly friendly," she said, "and I am just constantly amazed by the view." Although Coleman was quick to adjust to Middlebury, some of her city habits stayed with her. "I always lock my door," she says. Asked if Middlebury was lacking in anything Coleman thought a moment and then replied, "there's no real Chicago deep dish pizza here, the closest place is in Burlington!"

Coleman also had a run-in with mistaken identity her first week on campus. "I was walking around with my camera and taking pictures to send to my friends when an administrator asked me if I was a perspective student," she joked. "Grace [Cho] was mistaken for a college student but they thought I was still in high school!"

Coleman has a three-year appointment at the College and is teaching an introductory psychology course as well as a senior seminar on social identity. Since she has a lighter schedule this semester she hopes she will be able to continue with her research work. Coleman said she always heard that Middlebury students were demanding and so far, they have not proven her wrong. "The students here are always challenging me," she said.

the deserted bandwagon

by matt kunzweiler

Returning to college, I was anticipating the usual first-week struggles: forgetting my mailbox combo, my handwriting — unpracticed for four months, resembling a small child's — my inability to tell which sentences in my textbooks should be highlighted…and my eventual decision to highlight only the sentences containing boldface words. I was prepared for these minor hang-ups.

But on the first Monday of the fall semester I found myself sitting in the LIS office, watching a couple of computer-savvy student employees prod unsuccessfully at my laptop's keyboard — the screen catatonic for the past several hours. Eventually they abandoned the prodding and one turned to me with the same wry expression local TV news reporters often get when standing in front of used furniture stores that have burned to the ground. "Your hard drive is dead."

I would've preferred him to say that it "passed on" or "sprouted wings," but LIS employees aren't paid to euphemize. They are supposed to use simple terms that we can all understand. I noticed that most of the others in the office had overheard the news and had now turned their heads or swiveled their chairs so to indulge themselves with a view of the catastrophe.

I eventually moved from a state of shock to one of profound self-pity. "All the documents I've saved since eleventh grade," I said, "all my digital photos, all 30 gigs of illegally acquired music, my legally registered copy of Snood — all gone?" I heard a yes. They're not big on sympathy, the LIS boys.

For the rest of the day, whenever I walked by an acquaintance on a path and he made the mistake of asking "How's it going?" I told him exactly how it was going. I complained about how my proof of beating Minesweeper on the expert setting in 119 seconds was gone forever. To others I explained how it would be nearly impossible to find that photo of Eddie Van Halen on stage next to synthesizer player and composer of the *Miami Vice* theme, Jan Hammer. "And I have to check my e-mail in *Sunderland*."

The sympathy I received from my classmates was overwhelming. Many had experienced the same devastating inconvenience in the past, so they were attuned to my pain. They consoled me with pats on the back, kind words and hot tea. One friend said, "It's just the most awful thing that can happen to you at college."

"Woe is me," I mumbled as I approached the dining hall's all-you-can-eat buffet and sat down at a table with a view of the mountains, where the people I met for dinner laughed at each other for being so self-involved as to talk on their cell phones during dinner. It was a fitting time for me to air my grievances.

MiddFoiling with pond Weevils

By Brett Cluff
Staff Writer

When Professor of Biology Sallie Sheldon came to Vermont nearly 20 years ago, she faced a serious problem. Intent on studying relationships between fish and certain aquatic plants, she was frustrated to find that a single plant species had come to dominate many bodies of water here in our state. The culprit: Eurasian water milfoil.

Ever since its artificial migration from Europe more than 50 years ago — probably via water from a fish tank — *Myriophyllum spicatum*, as the plant is known, has wreaked havoc on ecosystems throughout much of the United States and Canada. The plant forms dense mats of leaves on the surface of bodies of water that can crowd out native aquatic flora and fauna. It can interfere with recreational activities such as swimming and boating, provide fertile breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and can even hamper municipal water systems by clogging intakes. In as little as two years, water milfoil can overrun a body of water.

In looking for a natural solution to the problems posed by such overgrowth, "I decided to find out what ate the milfoil," said Sheldon. After testing several types of beetles, she settled on North American milfoil weevils as the best weapon. Milfoil weevils combat the invasive plants in two main ways. Adults chew on the leaves near the surface of the water, but it is their offspring that do the most damage. When the weevil eggs hatch, the larvae burrow into the stem of the plant and eat their way downward, destroying the plant's ability to transport nutrients from its roots to the leaves. Pupae form lower in the stem and crawl back up to repeat the process, but by then the damage is done. The weevils — unlike the milfoil itself — are native to North America, which means that they are not affected by the plant's natural defenses. Compounds in Eurasian milfoil protect it from attacks by hungry Eurasian weevils, but their counterparts here in the northeast are not susceptible.

Middlebury College sophomore Julie Erickson was one of Sheldon's assistant researchers this summer. While many students spend their free time over summer break in wetsuits, Erickson wore hers to work. One of her main responsibilities was to collect adult milfoil weevils from area lakes for breeding back in the lab. Such a task was easier said than done — the weevils are about half the size of a grain of rice.

"Factors such as temperature, light, and concentration of dissolved oxygen affected how many weevils we could catch," said Erickson. But she also said that the team became quite good at spotting beetle-laden milfoil by the end of the summer. "By breaking off the tips of the plants that had the most insects, we could collect about 50 weevils an hour on a good day," she said.

Once gathered, the milfoil stems and weevils were then transported to the greenhouse adjacent to Middlebury College's Warner Hall and separated into tanks. Milfoil weevils are prodigious reproducers: the 60 or so specimens in each tank produced so many eggs that they were usually ready to be re-transplanted in three to five days. Sheldon described them as "egg-laying machines." With a hatch rate of nearly 90 percent, Sheldon's team was assured of producing a viable population of larvae when the egg-laden milfoil plants were returned to their lakes. To guarantee that no non-native species had a chance to disrupt the ecosystem, the plants were only reintroduced to the bodies of water from which they came.

Sheldon's work has been so convincing that it caught the attention of EnviroScience Incorporated, which describes itself as a provider of "non-traditional and creative solutions to environmental problems." "I am a scientist, not a farmer," said Sheldon. She and the College licensed the weevil breeding and distribution process to EnviroScience in 1997 under the moniker "MiddFoil," and the program has since been put into place in more than sixty lakes throughout the U.S. and Canada.

In Vermont, Sheldon has been working with three separate lake associations to protect their bodies of water. This summer's research was focused on Glenn Lake near Fair Haven, but the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources has granted permits for MiddFoiling at Fairfield Pond, Eligo Lake in Craftsbury, and Lake Morey in Fairlee. Sheldon expects to introduce eggs into all three this autumn.

Ironically, past efforts to combat Eurasian milfoil are largely to blame for the species' successful expansion. Herbicides have been a major weapon for those trying to control its spread, but such chemicals kill many weevils along with the targeted plants. Sheldon and Erickson both stressed that cutting back on herbicide use could be the most effective approach in the long run. While it might result in a few years of especially heavy blooms, "the weevil populations would quickly rebound to the point where they could limit milfoil growth," predicted Erickson.

Although it is still too early to tell how successful the program will be for the three lakes in Vermont, Sheldon expects to see results next spring. She will be ready to transplant more weevils to the affected lakes if necessary. Thanks to the ingenuity of Sheldon's students, she is confident that progress will be made against the spread of Eurasian water milfoil. "Every student had their eyes and ears open constantly," she said. "Because Middlebury students are so creative in their approaches to these problems, it was astonishing how fast we were able to get things done."

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

50-year-old men at the McCullough	Air ventilation at the McCullough
Hey, someday we're all going to be sketchy alums, so why not dance with that nostalgic grad? It's like the alumni golden rule.	We know sweat can be hot, but when you're dripping with it — and the person you're dancing with is dripping on you — it's just *hot*. And smelly.
Free candy	Air ventilation at the Activities Fair
Why else does anyone go to the Activities Fair?	Hey, come join our club! We have the best B.O. of all the other clubs!
Atwater's wood fire oven	6 p.m. dinner line at Atwater
The pizza last week? Amazing. And the naan from last year? Wow. Please use it more often. (But don't tell the jocks about it.)	Why is Atwater the new Ross? Jocks, go back to your home! Are you too good for your home?

World Briefs

— By Caroline Vial

Back to school?

A blackboard and some chalk? Totally passé. The Saint-Rembert school in Torhout, Belgium started the school year with digital blackboards. "Smartboards," are entirely computerized and offer a multitude of possibilities to work interactively. Do they also have beltways in mid-air in order to get from class to class?

— *Libre Belgique*, Brussels

Homo exhibitionists

Human beings are just animals! That is what the London Zoo reminded its visitors during four days when the zoo presented the Homo Sapiens species inside the mountain-like space habitually reserved for bears. Contrary to the other pensioners, the human specimens — all-voluntary! — were able to return home every night.

— *BBC News Online*, London

Nun for you

A Colombian nun kidnapped herself and demanded from her convent a ransom of 20 million pesos. The religious woman was arrested by the anti-kidnapping commando — a branch of the Bogotá police — while she was calling the Mother Superior at her convent of the oblate sisters of the "Very-Saint-Savior." The young woman, masking her voice, was trying to pass as a 48th front guerillera fighter from the revolutionary armed forces of Colombia (FARC). Eliyomara Duarte Grimados was claimed complacent in front of justice.

— *El Tiempo*, Bogotá

Let's go vote-clubbing!

In Geneva, Bâle and Zurich, it was on a background of funk or electro that Helvetian party-goes were able to fulfill their civic duties. The organizers of these vote-in parties hoped to spur young adults to vote. At the Geneva club "Au but du monde," clubbers did not overdose on civic-mindedness. Between 10 p.m. hours and 4 a.m., only 23 people placed their paper votes into the voting urn, which was lent by the post office and watched over by a security agent. On the other hand, 166 paid their way onto the dance-floor.

— Le Matin, Geneva

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and

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WILL POWER GIVES THE LOW-DOWN ON 'FLOW'

Asian art exhibit opens new doors

By Ian Fleishman
Staff Writer

On Friday, Sept. 16, the inaugural exhibition of the Robert F. Reiff Gallery of Asian Art opened in the newly redesigned gallery on the second floor of the Middlebury College Museum of Art. Robert Youngman '64, who discovered his passion for Asian art more than 40 years ago in 1963 while on a trip to the Philippines, is funding the exhibit with his wife Barbara.

Named in memory of Robert F. Reiff, a professor of art history at Middlebury College from 1958 to 1982, the gallery will be dedicated to the College's growing collection of Asian works and exhibit loans from numerous public and private collections. Richard Saunders, director of the Museum, said, "With the opening of the Reiff Gallery, it is now possible to display some of the outstanding recently acquired works from the Museum's collection. We are very grateful to the Youngmans and to other collectors for lending exceptional pieces from their respective collections. With the opening of this gallery, we hope that the Museum will become a destination for those interested in Asia and its culture."

The amassment of the assorted artistic and cultural artifacts of an entire continent may initially sound ambitious at best and culturally ignorant at worst, but the visitor is quickly put at ease by the competent, even insightful, presentation of the pieces displayed. The inaugural exhibition of the Reiff Gallery — "Asian Games: The Art of Contest" — is a captivating history lesson which traces the origins of games as familiar as chess, Chutes and Ladders, Backgammon and Parcheesi to their origins in ancient Asia. Organized into four categories representing different types of games, elegant antique chess sets are displayed beside depictions of gaming in paintings and prints. The exhibition is also interactive and entertaining, including a hands-on game playing area.

Not only is the gaming exhibit exquisite and ornate, but as Colin Mackenzie, the Robert P. Youngman curator of Asian Art, pointed out observing civilization at play can offer engaging insight into cultural trends in the richly diverse societies of Asia.

"Games are a cultural phenomenon, and not trivial at all," he said. "They are also universal: everyone plays games." Adverting to the history of the game Chutes and Ladders, he added, "It says a lot about a society when a game is centered around the themes of temptation and evil."

One display shows how the original Indian game representing the quest to attain Nirvana was adapted by British colonials into a school game with scholastic achievement as the aim and canes replacing snakes as a reminder of potential corporal punishment. More interesting still, perhaps, is a Chinese variation in which the goal was bureaucratic ascension from the lower to the higher ranks of society and administration in government. "This also says a lot about Chinese society," said Mackenzie.

The artifacts presented span a history of over 2000 years, from roughly 200 B.C. to the early twentieth century. The geographical area covered is equally immense, with works on display from China, Japan and Persia. The traveling collection, which includes contributions from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the Royal Asiatic Society and other institutions, has already been presented by the Asia Society in New York and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in Washington D.C.

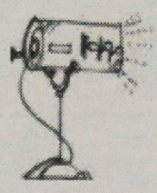
While on the whole the exhibition presents a fascinating, informative and well-organized reflection on eastern cultures, the western viewer is constantly aware of his own distanced perspective. "The main goal is to represent culture and, to a lesser extent, technology, through art," said Mackenzie. President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz echoed this sentiment, saying that as Asia "becomes more and more visible to Americans due to its demographics and expanding role in the global economy, it is important to recognize that for thousands of years it has been home to innovative civilizations and the originator of many technological innovations."

Although the tone of this attempt to assess cultural superiority may come across as a bit odd, the exhibition itself is a brilliant representation of the technological prowess of the Ancient East. Highlights from Middlebury's collection of Asian Art include an example of printing which predates Guttenberg by some six centuries and a work of porcelain which can be traced to the Ming Dynasty. "In some respects, Asia was more advanced technologically than the West," said Mackenzie. "At the same time that these porcelain pieces were created, in the West they were still eating out of wooden bowls." Cultural comparison aside, the artwork on display offers an enthralling glimpse of Asia and its diverse societies of the past two thousand years.

Courtesy
Standing the test of time, a complete suit of 18th century Japanese armor is one of the many Asian artworks now on display at the College Museum.

Asian gallery gala

Albert Bitici
Opening its doors last Friday, the Asian Art exhibit attracted a diverse crowd of faculty, students and art lovers from the Middlebury community. The opening reception featured remarks by Richard Saunders, director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art.



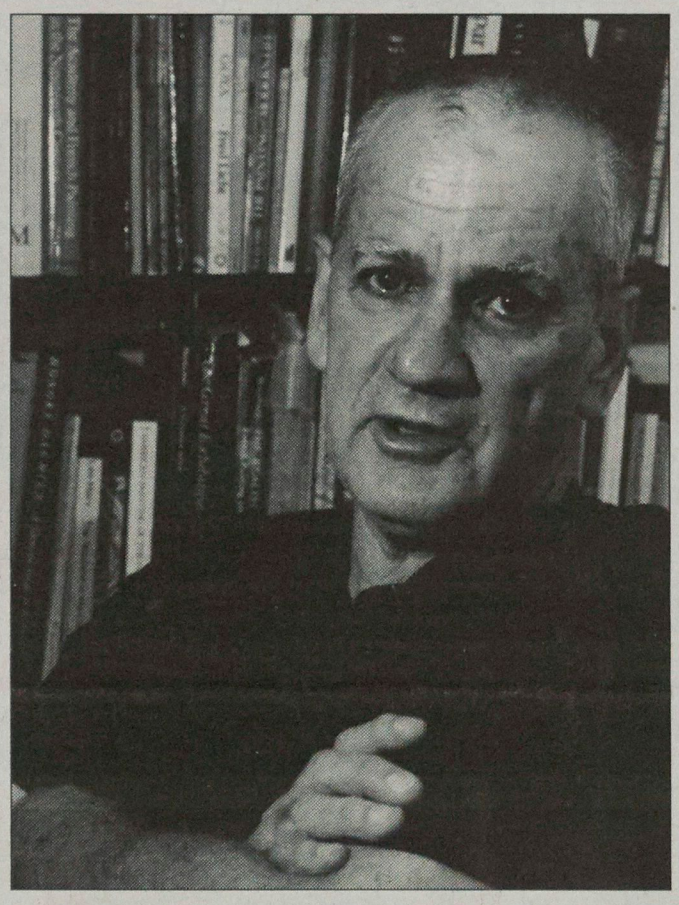
Spotlight on...Peter Plagens

Peter Plagens — painter, educator and novelist — is a visting professor of Contemporary Art and Criticism for the semester and was a *Newsweek* senior writer for fine arts for over 15 years.

***The Middlebury Campus*: You have your hand in many aspects of the art world. What do you consider yourself ?**

PP: I'm a painter who happens to have done all these other things as artists are sometimes wont to do. They're avid this's or that's and there's a lot of history of artists writing art criticism, but they are always artists first. On the other hand, a byline, especially for the popular press, travels a lot farther than the artist's identity unless, say, you're Jasper Johns or Robert Rauschenburg. So I accept the fact that if you would ask anyone else but me they would probably say, "Oh he's a critic and he also paints." Fair. But really, I'm an artist.

***The Campus*: How did you get involved in the arts? What was your inspiration? Did you always know you wanted to be a painter?**



Vlad Lodoaba

Plagens: Kind of. I went to college. I went to an art department at a big university, the University of Southern California. It was a biggish art department, but still I went to college to go to college. Actually, I thought I would be an English major, but that's what everybody said you were until you figured out something else, right? But USC had ceramics, photography and graphic design. I really liked the painting class, so I switched gears and decided to become an art major.

Before that, though, my first influence was my father. He was an unsuccessful commercial artist and a good man and very philosophical. He taught me a whole lot of stuff [and to] get into oddball little things. He could draw really well, so I grew up with him always bringing home drawing paper. But I went to college and I got a degree in painting, and then I just kept going. At USC, I realized I liked school a lot, so I kept going and went onto Syracuse and got an MFA. By that point, I knew I was an artist.

***The Campus:* Would you say your college experience really shaped you into the artist you are today?**

PP: Oh yeah. First of all I went to college and not an art school. I didn't go to RISD or the Museum School in Boston or CalArts. It wasn't a deliberate choice — I was lucky to even go to college. I got a scholarship from USC, so I went, and I'm very indebted to my alma mater. They done me well. And by the time I got out of college I was a painter, and the fat was in the fire.

I've been doing it for 40 years and I haven't ever stopped doing it. I was a college art teacher for about 20 years and then I was the art critic for *Newsweek* for about 15. I always did something else, but kept the fine-art vein through it all.

***The Campus:* How do you balance being both an artist and an art critic? Did you ever encounter resentment from either side?**

PP: Well, there are different reactions. One is, yes, it distorts your place in the art world and skews your views. If you write art criticism, which is to say, in essence, if you publish your opinions about other people's work, you're going to be considered politically. Every artist I know practices art criticism, only they practice it at Puffy's Tavern over a pitcher. I don't do that — I get it out in the open, and I don't know whether it's brave or compulsive or egotistical, or just happenstance. Being both an artist and a critic does skew your opinions. If you're a kind of liberal, democratic, progressive person you believe that conflicts of interest should be avoided. So here's a case where you're playing both sides of the street. Do you recuse yourself? Do you say I can't review that show at that gallery because I'm a painter and that's the next step-up gallery I'd like to get into? Well I didn't do that, but when some other artist shows and I write a favorable review, it's tainted because I kind of play both sides.

***The Campus:* Do you feel that a fine artist would have a better perspective as a critic than, let's say, an art historian?**

PP: I wouldn't say better, but sociologically, on the political people front, as an artist you know what it's like to show work, what it's like to be criticized and what it's like to deal with galleries from the other end as a seeker. There are some dangers. For instance, part of your business as an artist is to be biased in terms of aesthetics and art theory because that's what gives you your configuration. But, as a critic, you want to be fair, and fair doesn't play with your artist temperament. When you go into the studio you're under no obligation to be fair to your tubes of paint. You do whatever you can with them to get what you want. The other thing is that as an abstract painter, I am much harder on abstract painting than I am on other stuff. So it's surprised me that I don't let my fellow embattled abstract painters have a free pass because I'm one of them. On the other hand, if I go to something that has projected video that has a kind of Hollywood power (Matthew Barney-like), I tend to be less critical because it's so groovy and I couldn't do it.

***The Campus:* How would you describe your personal artistic style? You said "abstract" before.**

PP: Well yes, I paint abstract paintings. I'll use sort of hyper-colloquial terms for a minute. They're a combination of messy and neat. You could say expressionist or cerebral, but literally, when the paint goes on, there's a lot of chance and messiness involved, especially in the beginning. This messiness has also combined with very neat, even-a, hard-edged, masked-off, taped shape in almost all of my stuff for awhile now. This creates a kind of compositional uneasiness. They're not harmonic. I don't necessarily go down easy, and I don't mean that in the sugary sense at all. My paintings are just more jarring and less optimistic, there's less harmony in them.

***The Campus:* Do you have any new projects in the works?**

PP: Well I have this retrospective exhibition that is now at its third and final venue. I do have another show in December at my dealer in New York that I've had for 30 odd years, Nancy Hoffman. Everything's done for the exhibit except there's this one really weird, maybe one-step beyond, painting. It could be really good and it could be a bridge too far and I'm trying to work on it and get it resolved and get it done and see whether it will be in the show or not.

***The Campus:* Are you trying to get a certain message across with your new work?**

PP: Since I have gotten to a certain age and a certain stage in things, I have gotten to be progressively more self-indulgent — something that I really would have worried about more when I was younger. I don't worry about "What's the message the painting is trying to get across?" anymore. The old theatre critic, Jack Kroll, now passed away, used to refer to T.S. Eliot's objective correlative: "It is the thing outside something that correlates with something." The painting is the objective correlative of my interior state. And the first question any reasonable reader or viewer would ask is "what the hell is so important about his interior state?" And I would say, "You know, you've got a point there." But I have beaten mine into a sort of artistic configuration over the years and now I feel I can fully indulge myself. Actually, I'll tell you what it's like. It was a T-shirt I saw in Vermont when I did this gig as a visiting artist at an art colony. My oldest daughter came up to visit and she liked this T-shirt of a rather nice drawing of a kind of lumberjack guy. Overalls, plaid shirt, stocking cap, looked French-Canadian, but an American version, holding an ax and the caption on the shirt said "I'm from Vermont and I do what I want." Well, lately, when I ask myself what is it that's driving what I'm doing, I come to the conclusion that it's that idea of "I'm from Vermont and I do what I want." I've finally gone over the edge.

— By Alexxa Gotthardt

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY ALISON LACIVITA

THE ARTIST | (SMOG)
THE ALBUM | A RIVER AIN'T TOO MUCH TO LOVE
RELEASE DATE | MAY 31, 2005

(Smog), formerly known as Smog, is the name adopted by singer-songwriter Bill Callahan, a pioneer of the lo-fi revolution. He debuted in 1988 with a cassette-only released entitled "Macrame Gunplay" and signed with Chicago-based label Drag City in 1991 after the release of the "Floating" EP. "A River Ain't Too Much" is Callahan's twelfth full length release, following the much-loved "Supper" of 2003.

(Smog) sounds a tad like early Leonard Cohen, and often Callahan cites Cohen, Bob Dylan and Lou Reed among his influences. Compared many times to Elliot Smith, Cat Power and Jim O'Rourke, (Smog)'s music allows for complexity of character, and for this reason Callahan is at times deemed "self-obsessed." However, what one person sees as "self-obsessed," another (like me) sees as the honest thoughts of someone who has a childhood, parents and thinks about mortality and heartbreak. "Supper" and "A River Ain't Too Much To Love" are like a peaceful nap, where you wake up and are a little disoriented at first, but then notice the sun streaming into your room.

Even at his least explicit, Callahan's music comes across as an honest assessment of its creator. For that, he is sometimes also labeled a jerk and a misogynist, among other things, but that may be the price of doing business for an artist who refuses to paint himself in the rosy hues of everlasting love or, conversely, dwelling upon heartbreak.

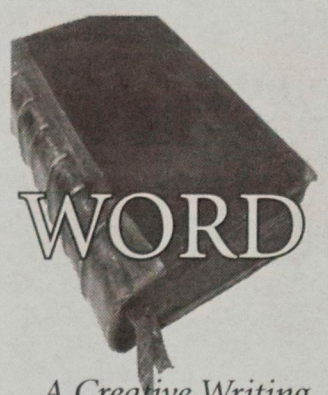
He presents himself as a hash of emotions, desires and needs, frequently uncertain of the world beyond the nose on his face, aware only of himself and his mortality, and, most crucially, drawing his own detached security directly from that awareness. He is also called an enigma because he resembles a human being in a medium where people are used to seeing caricatures.

The more confrontational sound of (Smog)'s earlier work, with distinct instrumentation and sometimes sardonic, nasty edges, has been blunted, whether by age or simply a desire not to repeat himself. Instead, Callahan relies almost exclusively on acoustic strumming and easy melodies, forsaking much of the cynicism of his more highly-regarded work.

Although not as compelling as his more rebellious material, this softening of his sound does not carry the negative connotation of an artist losing steam later in his career. Callahan's distinctive baritone and cutting inflection are unchanging while simultaneously the lyrics depict his own personal changes. In "I'm New Here," he tells us, "I did not become someone different.../ No matter how far wrong you've gone/ You can always turn around."

A listen to the gentle tones of "Say Valley Maker" makes clear the message about transcendence after death. He sings, "Bury me in wood, and I will splinter/ Bury me in stone, and I will quake/ Bury me in water, and I will geyser/ Bury me in fire, and I'm gonna phoenix," and reveals a newfound peace after a confrontation with mortality.

Callahan is a bit new to this sort of territory, occasionally tripping over some surprisingly hokey imagery, and it may not suit those who crave the immediate emotional impact of his more tormented work. But, like any other (Smog) album, it would be incomplete if it presented only a one-dimensional view of his character. In that sense, "A River Ain't Too Much to Love" is as human as anything Callahan has ever done.



A Creative Writing Commentary

BY ABIGAIL MITCHELL

As I embarked on my venture to explore the niches of the creative-writing network at Middlebury College, the renowned Breadloaf School of English seemed the logical starting point.

Benjamin Dimiero '06, an English major awarded a scholarship to Breadloaf for poetry, gave me an insider's view. At first glance, Dimiero personifies the ranks of coffeehouse-goers flocking the streets of Williamsburg or the Bowery. You know the ones: *New Yorker* in one hand, cigarette in the other. Dimiero looks at me from behind his black, rectangular glasses and tells me he is also a film minor with screenplay aspirations. Of his future, Dimiero says, "I can say the catch-all, 'I want to be a writer,' but what does that really mean anyway, to be a 'writer'?" Good question.

Dimiero admits to feeling intimidated before the conference began at the prospect of working alongside older and more experienced writers. However, by the end, these feelings had completely dissipated. He realized, as he said, that "there's not such a huge gap between myself and, say, Charles Baxter." The seeming chasm is mostly a result of years more practice and experience. There is definitely the talent component, too, but it is not the whole story. The quality and experience of the writers at Breadloaf meant that they had an incredible wealth of knowledge to offer young undergrads like Dimiero.

"The atmosphere was pretty unbeatable," he says. "Where else can you strike up a conversation with an award-winning author over a cafeteria table?" Breadloaf taught him about craft. "There are so many aspects to consider when writing a story," said Dimiero, "It is so much more than getting yourself from point A to point B. There is the architecture to think about, the structure, the syntax, the development." Dimiero also learned the value of practice and discipline, describing to me the existence of a "writing muscle" that, like any other muscle, requires regular exercise so as not to atrophy.

When asked how the Breadloaf workshops compared with those at Middlebury, Dimiero said, "Previously, I had been complacent about my writing [because] people were too hesitant to criticize." At Breadloaf, however, diplomacy was not the main concern. "One of my poems got shredded," he admits.

And as for whether Breadloaf live up to its reputation as "Bed Loaf," as a den of debauchery and mayhem and the perfect break for an artist stifled by his 9-5, Dimiero said the nickname was a bit of a stretch. However, he adds, "The dances were hilarious... no matter how accomplished you are, you can still get wasted and grind to cheesy hip-hop!"

Birdhouse dance project takes flight again

By May Chan

Staff Writer

This Friday and Saturday, the Middlebury Dance program will bring a treat to kick off your weekend. "The Birdhouse Project", a performance directed by Andrea Olsen, Middlebury College professor of Dance, celebrates the 40th anniversary of Middlebury College's Environmental Studies Program and raises the climate issues of our time in a colorful, lighthearted approach. "The Birdhouse Project" is just one of many events that are part of the Nicholas R. Clifford Symposium on "Renewel: Perspectives and possibilities in an age of climate crisis."

This will be the third performance of the project. Last spring, the group performed at the Middlebury Center for the Arts (CFA) and in New York City's Stuyvesant Cove Park in June, attracting large and enthusiastic crowds. This time, the performances will come to life in front of John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall. The project will include music from David Rothenberg and feature bird calls and birdhouses designed by visual artist Carl Phelps. Over 20 faculty members, plus 20 students and dance alumni will take part in this 50-minute flight of fancy.

Olsen, the director of "The Birdhouse Project," revealed that the idea came out of the desire to teach courses linking environmental studies to dance. "I like to encourage students to travel, to go out and dance on the land," she said in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*. Olsen has taught at Middlebury College for 23 years, directed over 50 dances, written two books and numerous articles and adores the art of travel. And indeed, there will be a lot of traveling in the "The Birdhouse Project."

The pieces will begin at the side entrance of John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall, migrate to the "Smog" and finish to face the quad. The audience must move as well to follow the bright, whimsical costumes of Middlebury's talented dancers.

"My real pleasure is that movement appears as part of the landscape. I encourage people to move on the landscape," said Olsen. There will be a blend of styles and the majority of the work will be created by the dancers themselves. Two of the lead dancers include Ben Brouwer '04, founder of Middlebury's Yellow Bike Project in 2002 and Lisa Gonzales '94, who previously taught at Middlebury. The performances will be an aesthetic mélange of ballet styles, contemporary dance and even a bit of break-dancing, performed by Ryan Johnson '06, who brings an urban perspective to the project.

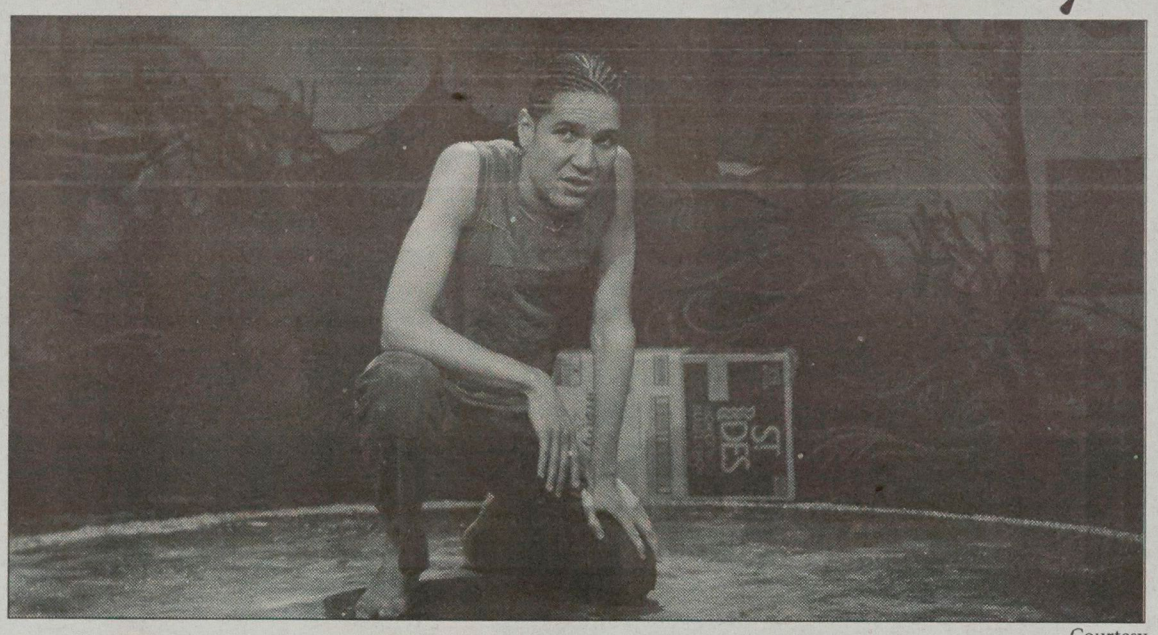
The Clifford Symposium explores the effects of climate change, and "The Birdhouse Project" illustrates this goal in a poetic way, engaging the public community in movement and appreciation for the landscape and birds. "Dancing outdoors is challenging — there's so much to be aware of, including the ground beneath your feet, and the sounds all around you..." Olsen said. While "The Birdhouse Project" will undoubtedly bring attention to local as well as to global issues, it also promises to be an intelligent and entertaining show with a touch of playfulness.

Vlad Lodoaba

Hannah Giles '06 spreads her arms in bird-like movement in front of a birdcage specially designed by Carl Phelps for the project's set.

"The Birdhouse Project" will be shown on Sept. 23 at 4:30 p.m. and Sept 24 at 12 p.m. at John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall.

Will Power tells his story in 'Flow'



Courtesy

Will Power from Hip-Hop Theater Fest mixes rap, acting and dance on stage in his innovative performances.

By Joyce Man

Arts Editor

When Will Power took time out for an interview with *The Middlebury Campus* for his upcoming "Flow" tour to the College, he was busy juggling travel plans to many more destinations in the following months: to Atlanta, then Vermont, New Jersey, Michigan, California, Minneapolis and Miami, with a trip in between to Poland on behalf of the company he collaborates with, Hip Hop Theatre Festival. But such a smorgasbord of schedules seemed to sit just fine with Power. This is not entirely surprising. After all, this energetic performer daily fuses hip-hop with theatre, music with story-telling, the 'hood with African villages of the past, and into this he pours his own life story. Apparently, Power is not just performing -- he is mixing it up.

Next week, on Sept 26 and 27, the artist who was critically acclaimed by the *New York Times* and *Newsweek* is bringing a lecture and his award-winning performance "Flow" to Middlebury College's Wright Theatre. His lecture will explore the growing culture of hip-hop theatre, including its social roots and political and spiritual influences. In Tuesday night's performance of "Flow", which Power created a few years ago, he will convey seven characters' stories through rap, rhymes and dance partnered with the musical mixing of D.J. Reborn.

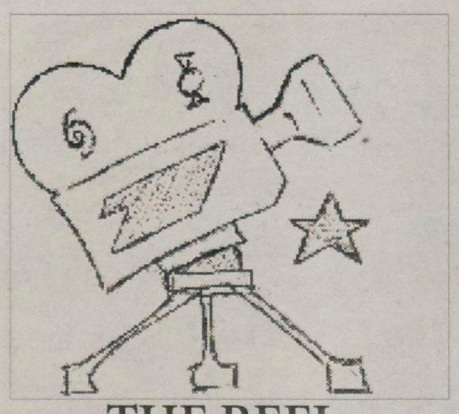
What will probably surprise lovers of theatre, rap and hip-hop dance is that Power's "Flow" is all three of those combined in one genre called hip-hop theatre. This dynamic combination began in the mid-eighties and has infused the work of Hip Hop Theatre Festival since 1999, when it began. It started in the dramatic and violent urban milieu of New York and Washington, D.C. and abroad in France, Holland, Spain, Sweden and Canada. While small, the contingent of hip-hop theatre artists is finding that more and more people are identifying with their form of expression. "We are not really a network yet," said Power, "but we are definitely growing, and not just in one country. This is an international movement."

It is one that is coming briefly to rural Vermont. When the Midd audience sees "Flow," we will experience a story that is, as Power explains, not a story in the traditional sense, but more to the variations of Lauryn Hill, Erykah Badu and rapper Jay-Z. "When people think of 'stories', they have an image of someone telling tales in the library," said Power, "but it's not confined to that. Hip hop is all about story-telling and in 'Flow', I take inspiration from everywhere."

To illustrate, Power referred to the sampling technique behind Kanye West's rap song "Gold Digger" from his August 2005 album, "Registration," which incorporated the hook from rhythm-and-blues legend Ray Charles' "I Got a Woman". "The subject matter is not super innovative," said Power, "but what is interesting is Kanye West samples; he took Ray Charles older songs and made it into his own original song. It's like he was paying homage to those who came before him, his elders. He was essentially having a dialogue with Ray Charles."

Power illustrates how he, in essence, used exactly this kind of fusion to tell his own story. When asked what the inspiration is behind "Flow," he is not specific, alluding rather generally to an inspiration and a flow of ideas that "just kinda came," but when talking about his collaboration with music mixer D.J. Reborn, he spoke with feeling.

"Historically, in the villages of Africa, there was always a drummer and a storyteller, or griot, to keep the stories alive," said Power. "D.J. Reborn and I have this kind of relationship. She is an amazing energy on-stage." Combined with this musical muse's inspiring presence, Power tells a narrative-cum-autobiography using ancient rhythms and words to take the technique of sampling to his own new level.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY JUSTINE KATZENBACH

MOVIE | BROKEN FLOWERS
DIRECTOR | JIM JARMUSCH
STARRING | BILL MURRAY

Imagine waking up one morning to find your current lover's bags packed and ready for departure, while simultaneously opening a mysterious letter enclosed in a pink envelope revealing not only that 19 years earlier you and an anonymous woman had a son, but also that this young man is on the prowl, not stopping until he finds you.

Such are the conditions for poor Don Johnston (Bill Murray), a middle-aged retiree from the computer industry, who, undeniably depressed, confronts this life-altering information with a response of indifference. While sitting in his metallic suburban home, filled to the brim with objects: a large flat screen tv, leather couches, a stereo system equipped for "The Beatles" — there still remains a haunting sensation of utter emptiness.

So, convinced by his dear friend Winston (Jeffery Wright), Don commences a trip that will lead him from one ex-girlfriend to another in an effort to find the mother of his child, encountering bizarre and ironic occurrences at every corner. Traveling from one woman to the next, he searches desperately for hints that she is the one.

The film captures the journey beautifully. While this story encapsulates the literal voyage, Don also undergoes an emotional and psychological passage that holds far greater importance. His images of each woman are destroyed — one ex-protesting hippie now lives in a quintessential McMansion and sells real estate with her husband, while another once determined student has realized that she'd rather live with her female partner and work as an animal-human liaison, translating barks and purrs into verbalized emotions and opinions.

Throughout it all, Don is constantly urged to question the past. If everyone he remembers a certain way has transformed into something else, then what has happened to him?

With some beautiful shots and imagery that director Jim Jarmusch clearly spent hours of concentration on, visually speaking, the film has some truly enjoyable moments. Jarmusch works with Murray in order to capture his humor not only through his actions, but also by the way in which his actions are filmed. Long, pensive shots focus on Murray's incredibly detailed and stoic face while he creates his particular comic effect propelled by a simple smirk of the lips or a lift of his right eyebrow.

Although Murray's performance is conducive to his character (sullen, bored, ineffective), I can't help but feel discouraged by his consistency. Within the first minute of the film, the tone of the movie was set in that most unsurprising of manners. His performance was exactly how I had imagined it to be: quietly humorous and slightly depressing, not unlike his past character Bob Harris in "Lost in Translation," or even Phil Connors in "Groundhog Day." This is not to say that Murray's seeming lack of broad range is a default. It simply means that for individual film-goers he is a very predictable character, and therefore the genre of film that he enacts is often just as predictable.

"Broken Flowers," which won the Grand Prix at the Cannes International Film Festival, is refreshing in the sense that it departs from the conventional Hollywood movie definition. However, I still felt a sense of disappointment created by the lack of originality. I wonder if the new independent film craze has, in effect, become just as generic for displaying emotionally dysfunctional "ordinary" human beings who stand as a commentary on modern America, as Hollywood films have become generic for car chases, uninventive love triangles and explosions.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of Sept. 22-29

22

NOTHING LIKE DREAMING
7:30 p.m. at Dana Auditorium
Filmmaker and local Vermont resident Nora Jacobson, who has partipcated in the Sundance Festival and received grants from the national Endowment for the Arts brings us "Nothing Like Dreaming." Shot in Vermont, the film follows a teenager, Emma, played by Midd Alumn Morgan Bicknell, as she struggles with loss and grief and discovers human connection at the edge of madness. Even more exciting will be a demonstration on how to use the film□s central motif, the pyrophone, a musical instrument played using fire.

23

SOULIVE CONCERT
9 p.m. in McCullough Student Center
Tickets $5 for MCAB card holders only, $7 regular
The creative trio behind two highly acclaimed albums, who have traveled with the likes of The Rolling Stones, bring jazz back to the dance floor with their beat-driven instrumentals, funky beats and strong bass. Alan Evans will be on the drums while his brother Neal Evans accompanies on the organ and Eric Krasno plays the guitar. Tickets are available at the Middlebury College Box Office.

24

M.I.A CONCERT
Spectrum de Montréal, 318, rue Sainte-Catherine Oest, Montréal
Tickets $21.73 Canadian Dollars
Described by The Rolling Stones as "weird, playful, unclassifiable, sexy [and] brilliantly addictive," M.I.A. is a female Sri Lankan native living in London who concocts rhymes and tunes about war out of bhangra beats and old-school electro. For more information, visit http://www.spectrumdemontreal.ca/.

24

24: AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE
8 p.m. at the Flynn Mainstage, Flynn Center, 153 Main Street, Burlington, VT
Tickets: $28-$44 (students with ID save $4 off top two prices)
Everybody knows New York City's treasure, the American Ballet Theater (ABT), but few realize its Artistic Director, Kevin McKenzie, is a Vermont native. This weekend, he is joined in Burlington by stars of ABT Herman Cornejo and Xiomara Reyes and 12 talents from the ABT Studio Company to perform selections from the group's repertoire. The performances will feature a mélange of classical ballet as well as contemporary dance choregraphy.

28

POP MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
Multiple times, multiple venues
Just three years old, this vibrant music festival has an impressive list of delectable talents in film, music and photography, from under as well as above ground. This time, the festival that tries to raise political and social activism brings us, amongst many, many others, Beck, Interpol, Moufette, Film Pop, Foxy Brown, Ted Leo & Pharmacists and Architecture in Helsinki. For tickets and info visit http://www.popmontreal.com/festival/.

Art N' About

WITH JOYCE MAN

New York is seeing a lot of action these days. Fashion Week just blazed through Bryant Park. World leaders have descended upon the United Nations Building for the 60th General Assembly Summit. And in the Upper East Side's Museum Mile, another monumental exhibit of 275 pieces spanning nine centuries of Russian art, reductively packaged into the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, opened on Sept. 16.

Although Frank Lloyd Wright's inverted ziggurat building usually houses a body of work seemingly small for the museum's size, "Russia!" has critics wondering if Museum Director Thomas Krens and his team's ambition has shot through the bulging Guggenheim walls.

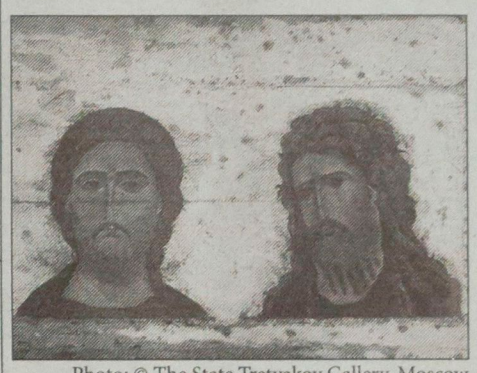
"Russia!" unfolds chronologically in nine sections, beginning in the Gallery rotunda and extending to Annex Level 7. Opening with Russian Orthodox iconostases of the 13th to 17th centuries, the exhibit presents pieces from the Imperial Collections as well as artwork of the pre-revolutionary 20th century symbolist and constructivist eras, the war period, the Soviet movement and the present. Between displaying the most holy icon, the "Virgin of Vladimir," and Kasimir Malevich's radical "Black Square," the curators also showcase Sergei Shchukin's and Ivan Morozov's impressive collections, which include works by Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso and Vincent van Gogh.

Having lived amongst the Moscow arts hubbub and become very familiar with the Russian disdain for foreign ignorance of their culture, I was doubtful of even the Guggenheim's ability to live up to their self-appointed task of presenting the "most comprehensive exhibition of Russian Art." But as Alexander Osipovich, arts editor of *The Moscow Times*, said in email commentary, the foreigners may have gotten it right.

"[This] is definitely one of the biggest events [in] Russian-American cultural exchange within the past few years," wrote Osipovich. In his opinion, works by lesser-known artists, like Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin, could inspire a new understanding of Russian art.

"For most Americans, Russian art basically means two things — icons and the avant-garde," he wrote, "so it'll be interesting to see if this exhibition helps fill in the gap." Valentina Trufanova, professor of Russian Art History at the Russian State University for Humanities, agrees, saying in a telephone interview that the Guggenheim's exhibit is a "very big, grand event [that] shows the real value of Russian art." From what Trufanova has seen of the pieces, she is enthusiastic. "All that native Russians recognize in their society — their mentality and ideals — it's all there," she explains.

Krens seems to have managed to crop the wide angle into a manageable mouthful for Museum Mile, and the Guggenheim looks set to continue the Russian adventure.



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Panthers suffer Tufts loss on the road

By James Kerrigan
Staff Writer

The women's soccer team saw eight goals and two shutouts this past week. Unfortunately, they can only call one shutout and five goals their own. A 3-0 loss to Tufts on Saturday offset the 5-0 win over Norwich on Wednesday afternoon.

Middlebury traveled to Norwich on Wednesday to battle the Cadets, but it was the Panthers that laid down the law. The final tally was 5-0, but it was not even that close.

The women attacked deliberately and defended with ease — they controlled the tempo and dominated possession. Erin Oliver '07 opened the scoring spree with two goals in the first 15 minutes with assists from Kim Kennedy '06 and Kim Walker '07. Once again, Middlebury struck in pairs — this time junior Erin Pittenger netted two goals late in the first half. Assists went out to sophomore Elizabeth Romney and first-year Lindsay Rotherham.

Ashley Pfaff '09 converted the fifth and final goal for the Panthers in the 62nd minute. The Cadet keeper was defenseless as the Panthers fired 34 shots. Middlebury survived their low shot percentage, but on Saturday, it came back to haunt them.

Coming off a season opening 2-0 loss to Colby, the Jumbos from Tufts came ready to play on Saturday. This time, the shot totals were closer (Middlebury finished with a slight 13-11 advantage) but the Jumbos took the battle of the scoreboard as they converted 27 percent of their shots for a 3-0 win.

Unlike their Norwich triumph, Middlebury struggled to dominate play against Tufts.

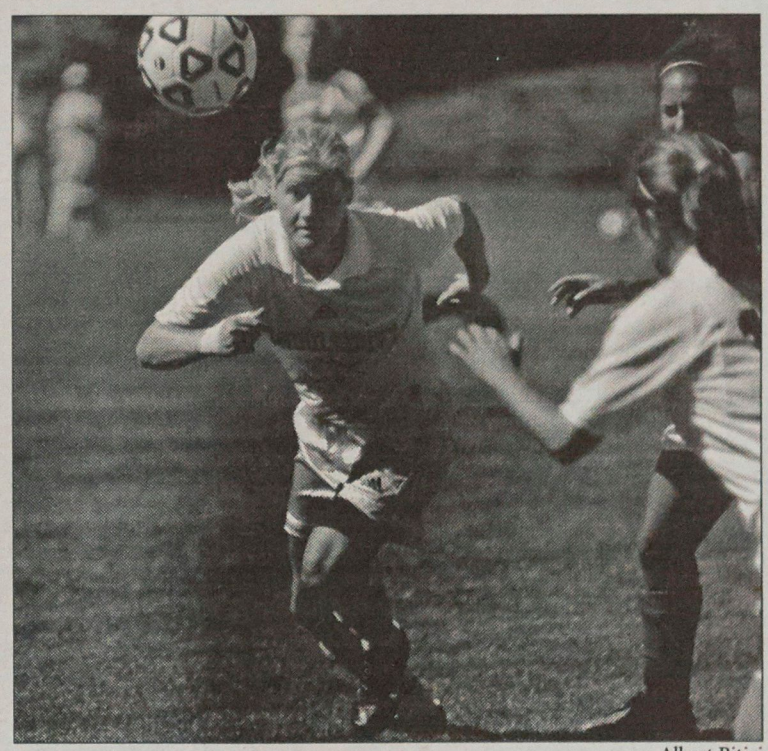
Coach Kim commented, "We were unable to possess the ball the way that we did against Connecticut. We also didn't finish our chances despite breaking through their defense several times."

Unable to generate any goals on offense, Middlebury also made several key unforced errors leading to Jumbo attacks. The scoring sheet was less than exciting as Tufts star Ariel Samuelson netted all three Jumbo goals (each assisted by Sarah Callaghan).

It seemed as though the squad struggled both offensively and defensively, but Kim noted, "I think [offense and defense] go hand in hand. Had we converted a couple of our clear-cut opportunities, and not turned the ball over during our attack, Tufts would not have had opportunities to score on us. We attack and defend as a team, and everyone is responsible both for preventing and scoring goals."

After the loss to Tufts, Middlebury stands at 1-1 in NESCAC league play and is tied for fourth with Colby, Trinity and Tufts. The Panthers travel to face bottom-dwellers Wesleyan on Saturday and hope to get back above .500.

The team will go back to the basics, improving their simple possession, team defending and, of course, finishing.



Albert Bitici

Middlebury took to the pitch with determination and came up just short.

Women's tennis bulldozes all rivals

Albert Bitici

Amy Roche '07 stretches out for a backhand while helping the Panthers improve to 2-0. The women have not lost a single match yet this season.

By Heather Wright
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College women's tennis team opened the 2005 season with two decisive wins over Skidmore and Bates. The Panthers anticipate a very successful season with the help of four new first-years: Clare Burke, Elizabeth Emery, Chandra Kurien and Elizabeth Stone. Captain Maren Messing '06 believes, "The four freshmen are a huge addition to our team. They are all strong players with a ton of potential."

Middlebury only graduated one member of the team in 2005, Lauren Ready, and the junior and sophomore classes have proven to be tough competitors with the likes of Amanda Berck '08, Emily Holick '07 and Amy Roche '07. Junior Jackie Ross is out for the fall, so the team will need to step it up to compensate.

"This fall will be an important transition time for us, as we are all in new doubles teams and the lineup is quite different from last season, but everyone seems really excited and focused, so things should go well," said Messing.

For the lady Panthers first match of the season, they hosted the Skidmore Thoroughbreds on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Middlebury left no doubt in Skidmore's mind of who the better team was after a 9-0 victory. Roche, Amy Berkman '08 and Stone played number one, four and all five singles respectively, all gave up only one game throughout the course of the match, resulting in a 6-1, 6-0 victory for all three.

The remaining three singles spots were occupied by Berck at number two, Emery at number three and Kurien at six. Berck defeated opponent Stephanie Abrahms 6-2, 6-0. Fisrt-years Emery, Stone and Kurien all began their respective Middlebury careers confidently with a win.

In the doubles matches against the Thoroughbreds, the Panthers number one doubles team of Roche and Emery barely defeated Skidmore, but were able to come out with an 8-6 win. Number two (Holick and Berck) and three doubles (Messing and Burke) easily beat their opponents 8-1 and 8-0, respectively.

Middlebury showed just how capable a team they are after a second 9-0 win against the Bates Bobcats. The Panthers hosted the Bobcats on Sunday, Sept. 18. Roche, Berkman and Stone did not allow their opponents a single game, resulting in 6-0, 6-0 victories for each of them. Holick at number two faced a tough opponent, but ended up with a big singles win 7-5, 7-5.

The doubles matches continued to go well for the Panthers and have been working well together. Roche and Emery at number one doubles defeated their opponents 8-3. Number two doubles of Berck and Holick won 8-2, while number three doubles Messing and Burke had an 8-1 victory.

"Skidmore and Bates are largely warm-up matches for us, but this weekend at ITAs is important as it gives us a great chance to play against the best in the east — it's not a team tournament but more individual, and this will give players chances for some good competition," said Messing. This weekend the team travels to Bowdoin for the ITA Regionals.

The Panthers' next home match is on parents' weekend, Sunday, Oct. 2 against Tufts. With this type of competition coming to Middlebury, there is no doubt the Panthers dominance will be tested. Undoubtedly, the squad will be prepared for all who cross its path to the postseason.

Rugby rocks Boston

By Eri Nosaka
Staff Writer

A spectacle that every student at Middlebury must witness is the pre-game ritual of the Middlebury Men's Rugby Team. The Haka, a war dance that originated in the Pacific Islands, has aided the team in focusing their energy and intensity on the game. This ritual, which scares every opponent and probably a majority of the spectators on most occasions, was one of the contributing factors in the swift and clean victory that Middlebury experienced this weekend at Boston University. After a long bus ride to Massachusetts, the A team dominated Boston University with a score of 46-7. Similarly, the B team (better known as the "Busy Bees") won with a score of 34-12.

With only a few weeks of practice under their belt, the team managed to already show a lot of strength in certain aspects of the game.

"In this game it was obvious that we were far more ready and skilled than the other team. We came out and scored within the first minute of the game, which is a great way to open up the season. For most of the game we were in their end and we had some beautiful runs by Pascal Losambe '07 and Craig Wilson '07.

We also had some amazing scrumming due to our hooker, Colby Hewitt '06, which ended up spoiling the opponent's chance of winning the ball," said Calvin Garner '06 when asked about how the team played on Saturday.

Although no weaknesses have become readily apparent, the men are still willing to put in the effort in order to perfect their game. With a group of players who have not played on the team since November, the Panthers are continuing to search for their rhythm this season.

When asked about what aspects of their game could be improved, Alex Conyers '08 said, "Despite playing well through most of the game, there were moments during the game in which we lost our focus. As a result this week we will be working on our fitness and maintaining intensity for the whole game during practices this week."

This weekend the men's team will face Williams in its first home game. Although Williams has yet to pose a real threat to the Middlebury rugby team, it should be a great chance for the team to showcase its ferocity and skill.

"The game against Williams should be a good fight. Last year we were successful, so this year we should come out victorious," said Des Jennings '08.

If this past weekend's performance is any indication, the men's rugby team should certainly produce a successful record this season.

On the women's end, the team has yet to have their first game, but will face Castleton on Saturday at home. Despite a frustrating shortage of players, the women look forward to an action-packed season.

By Justin Golenbock
Staff Writer

True greatness is defined in those agonizingly few crystallized moments when man reaches his pinnacle and performs a truly miraculous feat. Sports have long been considered a medium for greatness in civilizations scattered through history, a fact recognized in 1896 when the first modern Olympics commemorated the valor of the famed Greek courier Phidippides, whose storied death from exhaustion after –and-fro the previous four days) warned the city in time to stave off Persian conquest.

Of course, in today's world of talking heads we have SportsCenter and Pardon the Interruption (PTI) to remind us that greatness occurs daily. But true greatness is evanescent, ephemeral and elliterative, which is something I was reminded of today while discussing topic ideas with Lexington legend "Fats" Sullivan. "Fats'" own prowess on the Midd track is recognized as the most transcendent display of athleticism by a Minuteman since their earliest athletes were first celebrated for running away from the British. *Greatness is memorable.* It doesn't show up in the box, but weaves legends around performances of mere moments that inspire generations in the re-telling. Willie Mays' catch, a feverish Jordan decimating the Jazz, Wilt dropping 100 in one game — or on that same night sleeping with the first of 20,000 women, performances that none of us will ever count among the pedestrian. "That equals out to having sex with 1.2 different ladies every day since I was 15 years old," the reticent center stated but once to adoring fans.

It is these performances I keep in mind as I scroll down hall of fame talent Edward Charles "Chuck" Knoblauch's lifetime statistics. This dude hit Fox Sports anchor Keith Olbermann's mom *6 rows* up in the stands of Yankee Stadium while trying to make the throw from second base to first, on a nationally televised game no less. A Gold Glover in '97, he was benched in the 2000 World Series during games played at Shea (NL games are played without a DH), before six throwing errors in 14 spring training games forced a 2001 MLB preseason decision (ostensibly for purposes of safety) forbidding his playing second base when Tony Clark was not at first. True story. He took a good, *not* great, career that no one but Rob Neyer's grandchildren would have remember 100 years down the line, and steamrolled it all for one chance at lasting greatness, miraculously spotting a ball from several hundred feet off the forehead of a 74-year-old woman without harming a grey hair on her head.

So how does the Chuck's story end? Well, because he's awesome, he retires at age 34, sends out vibes that he'll join fellow ex-MLBer John Burkett on the professional bowling circuit, cementing his place in sports crossover legend history. Something to ponder, Phidippides fans…

Netters strong in wide open NESCAC

By Sarah Luehrman
Staff Writer

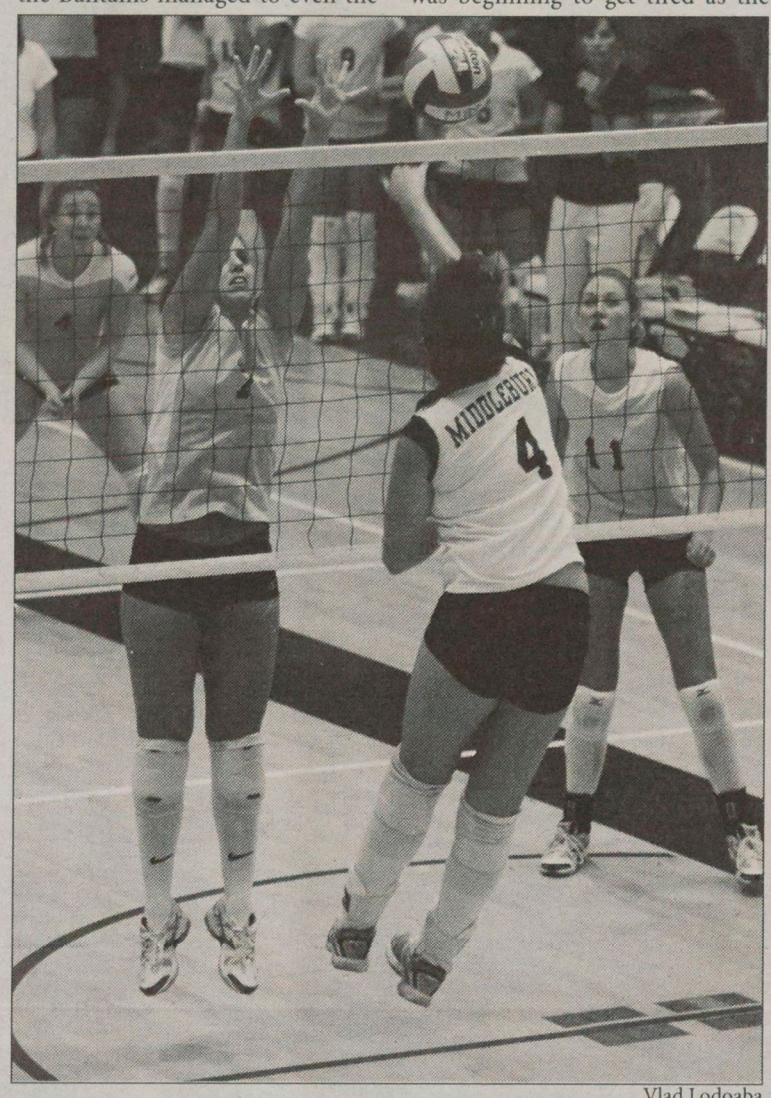
After a successful and eventful NESCAC volleyball weekend hosted in the Pepin Gymnasium here at Middlebury, the Panthers hold a record of 4-3 overall and 2-1 within NESCAC thus far. "We got a good look at our competition this weekend," commented captain Lacee Patterson '07, "and it looks like the league is wide open. Most of the teams have young players (including us), so it is basically going to be a race to see who can figure out the right system the quickest."

Middlebury faced off against Wesleyan, their first in-league opponents of the season, on Friday evening, Sept. 16, in Pepin, and the tournament began on a positive note, with a 3-1 win. After falling in the first game 25-30, the Panthers came back with three stunning victories in a row, each just as close as the one before, to claim the win over Wesleyan, currently 1-2 within the NESCAC.

Lindsay Patterson '09 and Lexie Fisher '08 led the offense with 13 and 12 kills, respectively, and captain Jamie Wong '06 backed up the defense with 20 digs throughout the match. "Although we got off to a rocky start," said Wong, "we kept a steady mental game which helped us put down a solid win." The Cardinals went on to defeat Hamilton 3-0 and subsequently to fall hard to Williams, 3-0.

The Panthers went on to face a challenging Saturday, beginning with a difficult loss to Trinity College, 3-2. The Bantams came to the court fresh from a loss to Williams the previous evening, and after the Panthers claimed a decisive first game 30-15, it seemed as though Trinity might be in for another tough day. Offense on the Panthers' side of the court was strong — Fisher once again demonstrated aggressive skill against the Bantams with a staggering total of 16 kills. Trinity, however, rallied for game two and, though the Panthers came within two points of the victory, the Bantams managed to even the match score to 1-1.

Middlebury claimed the third game 30-27 but dropped the fourth 22-30. The Bantams were demanding twice the defense that Wesleyan had, and the Panthers were there to respond, with Wong contributing another 25 digs and Lindsay Patterson '08 21, but the team was beginning to get tired as the fifth game began. Trinity clinched the victory with a 15-7 game, and the Panthers took advantage of their few hours of rest before facing Connecticut College. "Trinity showed us we certainly have some work to do," commented Lacee Patterson, "but that is the rollercoaster of early season play."



Vlad Lodoaba
Amy Heath '07 crushes an overhand spike during tough NESCAC action.

The Connecticut College Camels, previously undefeated in the league, were flush with their victory against Hamilton and Williams. The Panthers, however, were prepared and took them down in three games, their first sweep of the season with some of the most intense competition yet.

The first two games were cut-throat and long as the Panthers struggled for the necessary two point margin, the first extending to 33-31 and the second even longer, 36-34.

The third game ended the match with an anticlimactic 30-17 win for the Panthers. Lacee Patterson took charge of both offense and defense, with six kills and 11 digs. Wong shone on defense once again with 21 digs and Lindsay Patterson contributed a remarkable 12 kills, totaling 32 over the weekend.

Both captains came away from the first weekend of league play optimistic and eager to see what the season will bring.

Lacee Patterson noted that "it was exciting to see the potential we do have" during the two exciting wins this weekend, and Wong added that though "the skill level of the teams this year is more even than I have ever seen before in NESCACS," the Panthers have great prospects for league victory this season.

Soccer wins 3-0 with LaRocca brace

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

After opening their season with a scrappy 3-1 win against Connecticut College, the Panthers looked to find more of a rhythm against Castleton, a team against which Middlebury has historically found considerable success. Quickly following on the heels of Castleton's visit and Middlebury's home opener, came a trip to Tufts, another team that the Panthers have had the upper hand over in recent years. Both games went to form in that Coach Saward's men emerged with two wins, but neither game was put beyond doubt until late.

In the first of the two games, Middlebury jumped out to an early lead when Baer Fisher '09 opened the scoring for the Panthers. However, despite dominating the game, Middlebury was not able to add to their lead before the interval and were almost shocked by an equalizer in the final seconds of the first half. Nolan Lincoln '09 preserved the lead for the Panthers, courtesy of a goal-line clearance, and ensured the 1-0 advantage stayed in tact.

Castleton would live to regret their lack of a cutting edge, as it took less than two minutes for Middlebury to extend their lead after the restart. Brodie MacDearmid '07 netted for the Panthers, and as a result the door was firmly closed on Tufts. Brandon Johnson '08 added a third inside the final five minutes, but it was academic by that point. Such was the dominance from the hosts that Middlebury out-shot their visitors 30-4, cruising to a second consecutive win.

Having effectively dismantled Castleton, confidence was high heading into a showdown with the Jumbos. It was always likely to be a closely-fought encounter and the first half indicated as much. The teams headed into the break deadlocked at 0-0, with both teams appreciating the importance of getting on the board first. Fortunately for the Panthers, Vandy Shanholt '08 was up to the task, firing home his second goal of the season seven minutes into the second stanza.

However, 20 minutes later, with the game delicately poised, sophomore David LaRocca stole the show. Last year's NESCAC Rookie of the Year emerged from a tackle with the ball and extended Middlebury's lead to two, then he was at it again within thirty seconds. After a delicious flick from Fisher, LaRocca effectively ended the contest with his second goal of the game and Middlebury's third.

The LaRocca-show took a further twist however, with the sophomore seeing red for a tackle from behind. However, it did nothing to affect the outcome of the game – he had seen to that with his quick-fire brace.

As time wound down, junior goalkeeper Zach Toth maintained his second consecutive clean sheet, leading Middlebury to an impressive start to the season. Next up for the Panthers will be the visit of Colby-Sawyer, after which they will take themselves on the road to Wesleyan. Coach Saward will be hoping his team can continue to build upon the positive start that it has made so far, and with nine goals scored and just one conceded in 270 minutes, it may well be a case of so far, so good.

Albert Bitici
Andrew Germansky '08 rises to the occasion in this week's play. The Panthers beat Castleton and Conn. College.

Panthers end week at 3-1

Vlad Lodoaba

Middlebury experimented with a more conservative formation before returning to their usual attacking mentality.

By Ryan W. Reese
Sports Editor

The women's field hockey team took its show on the road this past weekend and wound up playing a matinee in Boston to a less-than-welcoming crowd. Their counterparts from Tufts were stiff and unprepared for the hardcore and unyielding style the Panthers typically bring. Being the persevering squad that they are, Middlebury found a way to pound out a tight 2-0 victory against the stingy Jumbos.

The first half was tightly contested with no real openings on either side; however, the Panthers sent six more shots than the Jumbos toward the before the break. The girls in blue also held a distinct advantage in the corner opportunities by a margin of 7-4. Head Coach Katherine DeLorenzo explained the tight first half by saying, "We went into the game with a more conservative game plan with one less attacker. The Tufts field plays slower than what we are used to and we didn't want to be caught off guard."

In the second half, it was an entirely different story. DeLorenzo continued, "After the break we went back to our standard formation and the pace of play really picked up. We showed off our passing proficiency and from that we created some quality scoring chances."

Indeed they did. It did not take long for Lacey Farrell '08 to take advantage of the more aggressive setup. She went through the Tufts defense unassisted to send home the go-ahead goal. Not three minutes later, first-year Taryn Petrelli joined in the fun and knocked home a comforting insurance goal as the Panthers sealed the deal and notched their third victory of the year.

Through three games DeLorenzo explained that she has been truly impressed with her team's play. "We have great defensive energy and have been working well in a new system that allows more shots on goal. Meghan McGillen '07 has been solid while stopping about 93 percent of the shots she faces. We have incredible depth without any drop-off from the first line. Every team out there is a solid Middlebury team."

The Panthers faced non-conference foe Skidmore on Tuesday afternoon on the Peter Kohn field. Skidmore brought a fiery and able offense to the contest, and Middlebury had tried to make the necessary preparations defensively to handle this well-known firepower. Their anticipation was not thorough enough as the visitors handed the Panthers a decisive 3-1 loss. There is no doubt that the women will bounce back.

This coming weekend, the Panthers will take to the highway once again as they travel south to take on the Cardinals of Middletown, Conn. Conference games are ever-so-important and we can guarantee that DeLorenzo's girls will not overlook the red and black Wesleyan attack.

Golfers swinging at home

By Jeff Patterson
Staff Writer

At one point on Friday night, Weather.com's hour-by hour forecast predicted a 90 percent chance of rain for every hour of Saturday and Sunday. When the weekend came, putts dropped instead of rain, and the fairly high (for mid-September in Vermont) temperatures came pretty close to matching the fairly low golf scores. The pace of play was reasonable, a rare occurrence in tournament golf, and the Middlebury men's golf team totaled their lowest score in the three years that senior captain Mitch St. Peter has teed it up for the Panthers, as they finished fifth.

The golfing success of the Williams Ephs, who won the 22nd annual Duke Nelson Invitational golf tournament, was anything but ephemeral. Williams, which represented the NESCAC in last year's men's golf NCAA championship mastered the Ralph Myhre golf course. Of the 24 teams that competed, in this 24-hour (over two-day) event, Skidmore, NYU and Salem State finished second, third and fourth respectively.

Indeed, the ephor Eph, Matt Slovitt, was the weekend's best player and at the conclusion of the tournament was presented the heavy, medalist, wood-engraved plaque for turning-in a two-day total of 143 (+ 1).

Beaney's Babies, led by Bellmare 07', Baumann '08, and Bane '08 (Chad, Geordy and Harry) did not disappoint. Bellmare finished tied for sixth with a career best, six-over, 148. Chad moved up the leaderboard by birdying two of his last three holes. On the par-4 third, his final hole, in the shotgun style format, Bellmare looked anything but panicked before he finessed a 15-footer into the center of the cup. Afterwards Bellmare gave a fist-pump to his teammate and friend, Bane, who had finished his round and was looking on.

Senior Derek Singer's final round 75, was Paul Azinger-like and combined with Baumann's Sunday 75, the scores were Barry Sea-Tow-like as they pulled the Panthers to within nine shots of the eventual winning score. With Mitch St. Peter's two rounds of 78 all five of the Panther players had broken 80 over both days. "Not many teams are capable of posting ten consecutive rounds in the seventies. [And we just did]," said Bane, who played as Middlebury's number one golfer, in what was his first collegiate tournament.

"Since Slovitt won at our place I'm going to have to win at their place," said Bellmare. Beaney's Babies make the trip to Taconic Golf Club for this weekend's Williams Invitational. Bellmare's last round in Williamstown was also a 74 and if his putter remains hot, he is more than capable of getting payback.

Middlebury Blue team finished 21st overall as they beat St, Michael's, American International University and Franklin Pierce. The Blue team gained valuable tournament experience and almost gave Wesleyan and Amherst a fight.

While the men were at home, enjoying local knowledge, the Lady Linksters were one state over participating in the Dartmouth Invitational. After the first day Middlebury was in 12th place out of 17 teams — most of whom are D-I, scholarship-giving schools, but by the end they were in 10th place, very close to the middle of the pack.

The Ortega twins '07 (Kerry and Allison) fired a respectable 83 and 86 respectively on Saturday. On day two, Kerry's six over par 78, landed her in a tie for 27th while first-year Julie Ellenburger's Sunday 83 placed her tied for 52nd. Columbia University won the Invitational and Sienna finished in the runner-up position.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY ZAMIR AHMED, TOM McCANN & RYAN REESE

Cronin earns NCAA award

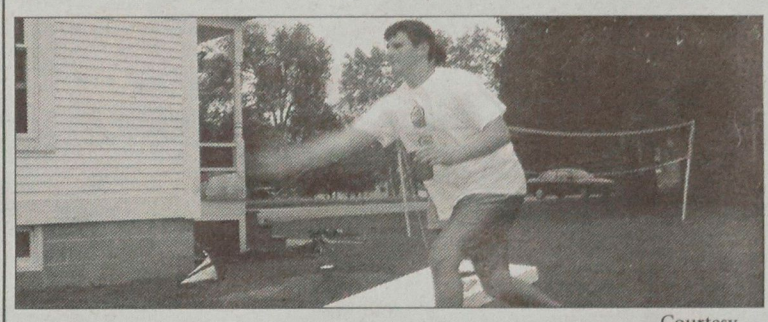
Athletic Communications

Recent Middlebury graduate Brittany Cronin '05 was named the Vermont State NCAA Woman of the Year after four years of sensational service to the Middlebury women's soccer team. The standout had a particularly impressive final season in a Panther jersey, scoring 19 times in as many games, accompanied by four assists.

A season of such dominance led to Cronin collecting a shopping-list of accolades, including a berth on the All-NESCAC, All-New England and All-American teams. She was also named NESCAC Player of the Year, with this award, the latest honor for her. By the time she hung up her cleats, Cronin was third on Middlebury's all-time scoring list and also third in points.

Far from being purely an athletic award, the winner must have also achieved excellence in academics and in the community as a whole. Cronin served as the President of the Sherwood Society and was also a mentor in the Foundation for Excellent Schools prior to her graduation.

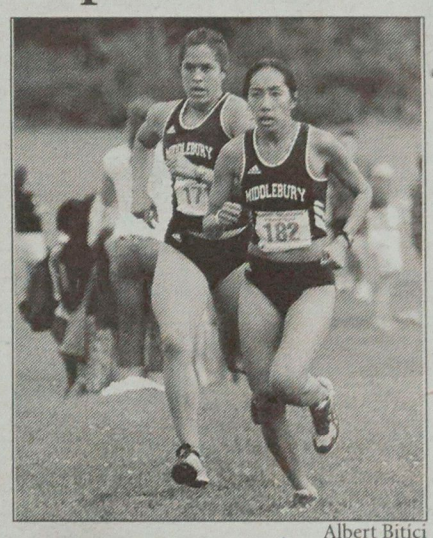
New contest played at BBQ



Courtesy

This past weekend, at the inaugural Porter House barbeque, the excellent hosts provided food, fun and much, much more. Along with an impressive menu of not only burgers and dogs, these considerate folks had chicken, sausage and vegeterian options. Accompanying this smorgusbord, the Porter crew has a plethora of lawn game available. With enjoyable matches of volleyball and badminton, as well as a rousing game of touch football, there was much to do. One contest truly captured the attention of those in attendance as being innovative, technical and simply fantastic. The name of the game is Cornhole. With two slanted boards placed roughly twenty feet apart, each with a drilled hole in the top, the goal is to throw one's "cornbag" (not to be confused with the standard beanbag) in the hole or on the slanted board. From there, it is a mad dash to 21 with a bag landing on the board worth one point, and a shot through the hole worth three. One, Mr. Adam Swick '06 introduced the game and it must be said that the senior is a dominant force with outstanding technique and unmatched determination. In fact, being the expert that he is, Swick was asked by the Ross Commons Council to donate his set and give Cornhole lessons at this weekend's Clifford Symposium.

Jogging 101: Expert advice



Albert Bitici

With nearly everyone on campus looking to stay fit and look their best for the next late night McCullogh dance party, exercise is a key aspect of feeling your best and getting in tip top shape. We here at the Campus Sports desk feel that it is our duty to give those of who looking to improve your physical being a little advice about one of the most popular ways to achieve this goal. Jogging is the perfect cardiovascular exercise for those busy MiddKids who don't have the time to go on a long bike ride or head to the gym. Jogging gets the heart rate up in a hurry and keeps it there for the duration of the workout. It is essential to have the right footwear when hitting the open road. A bad fit can wreak havoc on one's foot. Asics and Brooks are excellent choices for the serious runner; however, any shoe that fits is undoubtedly the way to go. Don't overdo it. It is imperative to start out slow and work your way up to faster speeds and longer distances as your body accustoms itself to this high energy workout. The best way to prevent injuries is to stretch thoroughly before and after your jog. Getting in a good stretch of all the major muscle groups will reduce the likelihood of developing nasty shin splints or racking up painful pulls and strains. Hydration is key. When pushing your body to the limits, it is essential to drink more than the standards you are used to. The eight small glasses a day will simply not cut it anymore. With this new knowledge, get out there, get motivated and get after it.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS | WOMEN WRECK COMPETITION AND REMAIN UNBEATEN | 25

GAMES TO WATCH

CROSS COUNTRY
WILLIAMS INVITE

MEN'S SOCCER
AT WESLEYAN
1:00 PM | MIDDLETOWN

campus sports

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

Panther cross country strikes gold at home

Men's and women's teams run past NESCAC foes while earning team titles

By Jon Brand
Staff Writer

The conditions for the first meet of the season were far from ideal, but that did not hamper the fine performance turned in by the Middlebury men's and women's cross country teams. Both squads raced to first place finishes on a drizzly, overcast Saturday in the Xth Middlebury Invitational.

Sophomore Jimmy Butcher led the men's team to its first win of the season, finishing 29 seconds ahead of his closest competitor. Senior co-captain Nolan Sandygren and junior Will McDonough both finished in the top five. The Panthers held off St. Lawrence to take the team title, but were without the services of senior co-captain Garrett Kuzzy as he is recovering from an ankle injury.

Kuzzy, who last year became the first Middlebury men's runner since Robbie Pederson in 1991 to qualify for the NCAA Championships, is excited about the possibilities for this season. "Last year was basically realizing and helping realize that it's possible to qualify," Kuzzy said of an NCAA berth, "and this year hopefully more guys will realize we can do it."

The team finished its season last year with a 7th place finish in the NCAA Regional, and only three runners left the team after graduation. A qualifying berth in the NCAA championships is the ultimate goal for this year's team, but it wants to focus on performance in the NESCAC as well. Co-Captain Baker Lyon '06, who finished in 13th place on Saturday, defined what would be improvement over last year. "If we were [to finish] in the top three teams in NESCAC, that's huge," Lyon said.

The women took advantage of the familiar course as well, finishing first overall in the team category in front of St. Lawrence and Plattsburgh. The Panthers dominated the competition, as all 17 runners finished in the top 24 spots. Junior Andrea Giddings paced the Panthers with her second place finish, just two seconds off of the lead.

The women's team hopes to duplicate its performance from a season ago when it won the NCAA Regional and placed second overall at the NCAA Championships behind Williams. The team will surely miss the experience of last year's co-captains Marissa Crawley and Jessica Manzer, who both placed in the top 10 at the NCAA Championships last fall, but will be led by senior co-captains Claire Anderson, Kelsey Rinehart and Jenny Jorvig.

The heart of the season starts this Saturday, when both squads travel south to open the NESCAC schedule at the Williams Invitational. With much of the same teams appearing in this meet, the Panthers are certainly hoping for the same results on both the men's and women's sides. There is little doubt that these Middlebury speedsters will perform well; however, it is always difficult to beat a team on their familiar home course. After this week's confidence boosting outing, these runners are looking strong and are looking to dominate.

Albert Bitici
The Panthers ran tough at home and did not shy away from the stiff NESCAC competition.

Men's tennis slams through home tourney

By Zamir Ahmed
Sports Editor

After a disappointing loss in the NCAA Championship game to end last season, the Middlebury men's tennis team wasted no time in getting back on track. The Panthers kicked off their fall campaign in style with a great showing in front of a home crowd at last weekend's Middlebury Invitational. The tournament featured stronger talent this year than in recent memory as Trinity showed up and put up quite a fight. The Panthers still managed to dominate as seven players made it to the semifinals of the four singles flights, while four of the team's doubles pairs made it to the semifinals in the two doubles flights.

In A Flight Singles co-captains Nate Edmunds '06 and Brian Waldron '06 will square off in the finals to be completed either later this week or early next week, with both players playing their best tennis ever. "I think they came into this season more focused," said George Mayer '07. "They both seemed to realize this summer that this is their last year to win it all and they are looking in really good shape and playing well."

The finals of the B Flight Singles will also be an all-Middlebury affair, as first-year Conrad Olson goes up against Kevin Bergesen '07, who beat teammate Salih Unsal '08 in a nail-biting semifinal match 6-4, 5-7, (10-7). Filip Marinkovic '08 won the C Flight title, beating David Yahng of Trinity 3-6, 6-1, (14-12) in the only completed singles final of the tournament.

On the doubles side Edmunds and Waldron will again be battling each other, this time in the A Flight of doubles. Edmunds will team up with Bergesen to take on Waldron and co-captain Ari Beilin '06 in a match to be played later this week. In the other doubles flight, George Mayer '07 and Matt Rales '06 made it all the way to the finals before falling to the Trinity team of Yahng and Jon Hart 8-3.

"We really came out with all guns firing," said Marinkovic. "We played with a lot of emotion and if we can continue this intensity into the spring season, we should be in for another great year."

Middlebury's great start bodes well for a team that has to be considered one of the favorites to win the Division III championship. With a great incoming player in Conrad, most of last year's team returning and a strong group of veterans providing leadership, the Panthers expect nothing less than national glory.

The Panthers next test will come this weekend at the Cornell Invitational from Sept. 23-25, where the team will try to use the strong competition as a learning experience for the year. "It's not often that a Division III school competes with a Division I school," said Marinkovic. "This tournament is a great chance for us to really find out our strengths and weakness and to improve on them."

Vlad Lodoaba
Nate Edmunds '06 prepares to rock a forehand in this weekend's home invitational. The Panther men looked strong and ready for the season.